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AND
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BIRTHS.

- On 6th October, at "Ian Mor," Peak Road, the wife of JOHN A. JUPP, of a daughter.
- On 10th October, at 2 Mountain View, the Peak, the wife of BASIL R. H. TAYLOR, of a son.
- On 11th October, at Victoria Hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. A. C. FRANKLIN, a son.
- On 28th September, the wife of Mr. N. A. A. NIELSEN, I. M. Customs, Foochow, of a daughter.
- On 30th September, at Shanghai, the wife of F. S. ABOITIZ, of a son.
- On 12th October, at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank House, Foochow, the wife of C. H. M. BALFOUR, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

- On 21st September, at Yochou, Hunan, WILLIAM HILL KELLY, the thirteen-months-old son of Dr. and Mrs. WILLIAM KELLY.
- On 24th September, at Kuling, MARION JOAN, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. EVERARD FRASER, Hankow, aged 3 years.
- On 4th October, suddenly, at his residence, Mount Zion Cottage, Singapore, C. A. PATON.
- On 14th October, at Kowloon, DANG CHEE, aged 67 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of September 12th arrived, per the s.s. *Prinzess Alice*, on Monday, the 9th inst.; and the French Mail of September 15th arrived, per the s.s. *Salazie*, to-day.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Peking is to have a corps of mounted police, like Tokyo.

Suggestions have been made that money for the construction of railways in Anhui and Kiangsi might be raised by means of lotteries, but a Censor has pointed out that, winning numbers might fall into the hands of foreigners and the idea is not likely to be carried out.

At the general meeting of the Seoul-Fusan railway a net profit of Yen 325,454 was shown and a dividend of six per cent declared: The Seoul-Chemulpo railway paid a profit of Yen 128,258, but royalty to Government absorbed Yen 45,000 and no dividend was paid.

The Peking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* wires:—The extension of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance has been welcomed by the great majority of the officials. It is said that Prince Ching, to whom Mr. Uchida (the Japanese Minister) explained the Treaty yesterday, was specially pleased and satisfied about the terms.

Nearly all the telegraph lines in the Philippines were interrupted by the recent terrible typhoon, and now that communications are being restored, reports of very extensive damage from various parts of the islands are reaching Manila from the provinces. Thousands are stated to have been rendered homeless, and along the coast there has been a great amount of damage to shipping craft.

A Peking dispatch states that the Waiwupu has received a telegram from H. E. Li Ching-hsi, Governor of Kuangsi, to the effect that the French Consul in Kueilin has asked permission, on behalf of a joint French and Chinese syndicate, to recommence work on a black lead mine at Mawelling (Horse-tail Pass) in the subprefecture of Shangszehou, which was stopped on account of the insurrection in Kuangsi during the past two years and over. The *N.-C. Daily News* understands that no reply has yet been sent by the Waiwupu to Governor Li's telegram.

Mr. Basse, of Viceroy Ynan Shih-kai's foreign staff, was received in audience by the Emperor and Empress-Dowager on Sept. 16th, having been summoned to Peking for that purpose. This is stated to be the first interview granted to a European in Chinese employment with the exception of Sir Robert Hart. In this connection it is said that there is a prospect in the near future of the steel works, also the gun factory at the Kiangnan Arsenal, being reorganised under the direction of Kiangnan Dock officials. The intention, the *N.C. Daily News* understands, is to have experts in each branch brought from Great Britain.

The report of the Directors of the Russo Chinese Bank for the year 1904 shows that the total profits for the year, deducting all expenses as well as interest due, and after reserving for bad and doubtful debts, amount to Rbl. 3,009,385.25. Out of this sum the Board thinks it advisable to reserve Rbl. 1,500,000—and to transfer this amount to the Special Fund created last year as a provision for losses in consequence of the war in the Far East. The Board of Directors also propose to pay a dividend of 4 per cent and to transfer Rbl. 114,486.78 to the ordinary Reserve Funds. Rs. 364,517.42 to Pension and other Funds, leaving a surplus of Rbl. 160,217.05.

At the Union Church, Shanghai, on Sept. 30th the wedding took place of Miss Debora van den Berg to Mr. Herman Hendricus Bodemeyer, one of Shanghai's prominent merchants. Miss Maud Cox acted as bridesmaid and the Misses Stewart as flower girls, while in the absence of Mr. E. C. Alexander, through an unfortunate accident, Mr. A. Artz ably fulfilled the duties of best man. After the ceremony a reception was held at the house of Mrs. B. Weinstock, where many guests assembled to offer congratulations to the happy couple, and the healths of bride and bridegroom, bridesmaid, and flower girls were proposed and heartily toasted.

The *Nanfangpao* had the following news from Nanking, dated Sept. 25th:—Yesterday afternoon, a special meeting was called to devise measures for boycotting the 40,000 cases of kerosene oil recently shipped to Nanking by the Standard Oil Company. The meeting was held in a spacious hall behind the Confucian Temple, and was largely attended. There were over nine hundred people present. The student body and merchants were well represented, and many eloquent speeches were made, all in favour of enforcing the boycott. One merchant who made a slip in his remarks was hissed off the platform. A native agent of the Standard Oil Company who had managed to dispose of a large quantity of the oil was severely criticised. Toward the end of the meeting, it was proposed to boycott him also, as he owns a large book-store in Nanking.

At a meeting of the Kulangsu (Amoy) Municipal Council last month at which there were present: Messrs. Bruce (Chairman), Gardiner, Kruse, McHaffie, and Dr. Otte, it was decided to write to Messrs. Poole, Lauder & Co. in reply to their letter of the 23rd August saying that it is assumed that, before they can make a business proposition regarding installing electric light on Kulangsu, it will be necessary for them to send a representative to come in contact with the Community and, in their own interest, to make some survey of the ground to be operated on, after which any proposition they make will have the full consideration of the Council. In the meanwhile the Council is quite prepared to give the six months' option asked for, reserving all right of retails till a bona fide proposition is before them.

The *Shên-pao's* Hongkong correspondent sent the following to that paper:—"A friend who has arrived from the Southern Ocean tells me that Chinese labouring at the mines in South Africa are cruelly treated to a pitiable extent and no one takes any notice of these things. Although under contract, the labourers do not receive the wages and food set down in their contracts. They are each day required to chisel out (bore) a depth of twenty-six inches of rock, and if anyone does not do this he is lashed with a leather whip, while a deduction is also made in his wages. The foreigners at the mines even go so far as to put the very largest of canes on the necks of the Chinese labourers and then make them work on as usual while wearing these canes. Under the circumstances our countrymen there are dying one after another under the burdens put on them. Our Consul, Mr. Liu, takes not the slightest notice of these things. Alas! those who pity our brethren have no one to appeal to for help."

THE RIVER CONSERVANCY QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 7th October.)

The complete abandonment of the clause in the convention of 1901 which provided for the establishment at Shanghai of a local River Conservancy Board, wherein all interests, native as well as foreign, were amply provided for, cannot be looked upon otherwise than as a complete victory for the reactionary party. Under cover of restoring China's territorial rights in an affair where they were never questioned, it has gone back to the old system of seeking to control everything from Peking, which in the past has proved so disastrous to all. Of course the Foreign Inspectorate has been thrown in, and the work is nominally to be under the control of the COMMISSIONER in charge at Shanghai; but the COMMISSIONER at Shanghai is but a figure-head under the command in every detail of the INSPECTOR GENERAL, and has neither say nor responsibility, but has in every matter outside the daily routine of his office to refer to the INSPECTOR GENERAL. Now, it is acknowledged that in the control of an office which ramifies through the whole of China, and in which perfect uniformity of working throughout is an essential feature, such a check is necessary; but it becomes quite a different thing when the object to be gained is the control of a river. Although ver hydraulics are a thing capable of reduction to scientific rules; yet not only does one river differ widely from another, but the same river under altered conditions varies so much that only those acquainted with its idiosyncracies are capable of forming an opinion offhand as to its requirements. This is so well known that it has become the custom in all civilised lands to leave questions of local conservancy to local control; and to interfere as little as possible from headquarters. To take a modern instance: the conservation of the Thames affects the Government of Great Britain far more closely than the conservation of the Hwangpo does the Chinese Government. Imperial control has been tried, and the result is that as a highway of trade the commerce of London has been suffering so much that of its own motion the Government is preparing to hand it over to a board locally appointed by the various interests concerned, the Government taking its part as one of these. In Liverpool, Glasgow and the Tyne, the Government does not even assume this indirect control but leaves practically the whole to the local bodies. China herself has had an example of the good effects of such a system of devolution in the recent improvements in the navigation of the river at Tientsin. This urgently-needed work had been for years in the hands of the Government at Peking, with the usual results of procrastination and pretended enquiry. During the short period when the Allied Commission was in charge, and without the necessity of going abroad even for an engineer, the much-needed work was put in hands; with the result that the bends which proved an insuperable obstacle in the way of Peking were, in a few months, in a fair way of being removed. The end is that now steamers can calculate on being able to proceed to Tientsin every tide, a thing which for years had become an absolute impossibility. In Shanghai likewise the state of the River has been for the last thirty years steadily deteriorating. Remonstrances have been sent to Peking time after time with the one result: each time the Government has responded that it was making enquiries, and as soon as they

were completed it would, of its own motion, begin at once; and each time, finding that the Governments of those most interested the local traders and local authorities, were content to take the promise for the deed, the whole has been permitted each time to slide back into the land where all things are forgotten. True, we have got the guarantee of the Inspectorate of Customs, and doubtless certain diplomatic persons ask in all simplicity, what more can you require? Now we are not going an inch too far in giving utterance to the expression that of all the reactionary bodies in China the Inspectorate General is the most so. Various circumstances have combined to bring this about. First, the law of self-defence and want of foreign support compelled the head of the office to range himself with the reactionary party momentarily in power. Secondly, recent events have forced the office into being the garnishee of China's foreign indebtedness, for which the Customs revenues have been hypothecated. Had the INSPECTOR GENERAL been acquainted with the first principles of political economy he would have protested against the suicidal policy which is underlying the whole of the present system. China has for instance lost entirely her tea trade with Great Britain and the whole of the British colonies through her shortsighted fiscal policy. Instead of warning her about its evil results, we find him actually interfering to make these defects permanent. There seemed some prospects of manufactures taking root in China; new fiscal blunders, aided and abetted by the counsels of the Inspectorate General, are blighting these in the bud. Look at Shanghai Cotton Mills; look at Shanghai Docks; and ask those concerned in the management whence their difficulties proceed? The answer will afford poor gratification to those interested in the trade of the chief commercial port of China, when alongside is placed the most recent convention placing in the same hands the control of China's most important harbour. It is no secret that the chief actor in bringing about the denunciation of the convention of 1901 was the DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL; and that it was mainly owing to his representations to the VICEROY of Kiangnan that the false agitation about the infringement of China's sovereign rights was brought about. We do not willingly bring to the light of day these animadversions because the Inspectorate in its day has done splendid service to both China and the world at large; but the more we admire the past the more we must regret the present. The new Convention may be a matter in itself of secondary consideration; but it is an unmistakeable symptom of evils ahead both for China herself, and for those concerned in the foreign trade of the Empire.

AMERICA'S POLITICAL INFLUENCE.

(Daily Press, 9th October.)

One of the most noticeable of the changes in the political position in the Far East which have been brought about by recent events, is the altered position of the United States in its relations both to China and Japan. America is now recognised as an active factor in respect to all questions which arise either at Peking or Tokyo, and, though the fact has been but partially realised, it has undoubtedly exercised a dominant influence in all the diplomatic questions which have arisen both before and during the war. This has been due to two causes;

first the change which has of late years come over the United States themselves in respect to matters of foreign policy, and secondly the increased importance which recent developments have shown to attach to the Far Eastern question in its bearing upon the possession of a strong, if not a dominant position in the Pacific. The old traditional doctrine that the United States should abstain from mixing up in matters of foreign policy and be content to throw their whole energy into the development of their internal resources has become very much modified of late years. Such a policy, admirable in theory, has proved impossible with a nation having such large commercial interests in all parts of the world; and it is now generally recognised that safeguarding and furthering interests abroad is as much a part of the standing policy of the United States as of any other nation. Still there is, and for very sufficient reasons, an antipathy to anything in the way of foreign conquest; but even this idea had to give way to the force of circumstances after the termination of the war with Spain and the annexation of Manila. The step was justly regarded as a new departure and was looked upon with little favour by American statesmen of the old school, while in Europe it was generally looked upon as the inauguration of a new phase in American foreign relations, and as bringing the United States forward as an active element in the affairs of other nations, and even with regard to European political questions. How far it will tend in this direction remains still to be seen; but one effect of the change has been to largely increase the interests of America in maintaining her position in the Pacific and seeing that no other nation obtained a predominant or, at all events, a menacing position in that direction. From her known traditional antipathy to anything in the form of foreign conquest, the United States naturally commanded a position of confidence in the counsels of the Governments both in China and Japan; and there is no doubt that her influence has done much towards the preservation of the integrity of the former country, and also that it has formed no small factor in inducing Japan to adopt the firm attitude which she assumed against Russian aggressions and her pretensions to become a dominant power on the Pacific.

It is somewhat noticeable to how small an extent the United States has been taken into consideration in the general discussions in European journals with respect to affairs in the Far East. Speculation has been rife as to the position and action of all other great nations, and the various combinations or *ententes* as to future policy have been fully discussed with regard to them; but little has been said with respect to the nation which has been very largely the moving force in all recent diplomatic movements in regard both to China and Japan. This has been in part due to the characteristic absence of display which has marked American action. The United States has been specially careful not to thrust herself forward in any way calculated to induce undesirable opposition. The only instance of late years in which she took a prominent part in diplomatic affairs in the East was with regard to the Treaty she concluded with China just before the outbreak of the war, declaring Mukden to be open to foreign trade. The step was of far-reaching importance, but was an accomplished fact almost as soon as it was heard of by the outside world. The position thus maintained, which virtually declared the continued territorial rule of China in

Manchuria, was so unassailable that it had to be accepted by Russia, however unpalatable it might be to her. In other directions probably not less important, America has exercised a strong influence on the course of events, and there is no doubt that she and Great Britain have been all along in accord as to the policy which foreign nations generally should adopt in the Far East. There is every reason to believe this influence will be continued. As things have turned out, it is proved that it must be of very doubtful advantage to any foreign nation to attempt territorial conquest in China; and Japan has shown that she will oppose anything of the kind which may threaten her interests. Thus the policy of leaving China alone, with which the United States has been for long identified, has in effect become accepted generally; and this fact will tend to strengthen American influence still further. It is no doubt due in some degree to this change in the position of affairs that Washington was chosen as the seat of the peace negotiations. It was felt, by Japan at all events, that the policy which would most commend itself to her and also to foreign nations was that which was most in accordance with American views; and though Russia naturally had some objection to the place chosen, she wisely acquiesced in what would tend most to the attainment of the object in view. In the future there is no doubt that American views will become an increasingly important factor in regard to questions in the East; and in the main they were much the same as those of Great Britain; that is, while every endeavour will be made to secure all legitimate improvements in foreign relations with China and Japan, and towards the internal improvement of the former, the idea of anything in the way of territorial conquest by any one nation will not be entertained, at all events while matters continue as they are at the present time.

EDUCATION IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 10th October.)

An account which is given by the Rev. W. NELSON BITTON, in a recent number of *East and West*, as to the present state of Chinese education must be disappointing to those who have of late been hoping they could at last see some signs of improvement in China from within. Time was when the majority of persons best capable of judging despaired of ever seeing any great advance originating among the Chinese themselves. Latterly, however, people of a more sanguine disposition had begun to hope that there were indications of some definite progress. It has been not unnaturally considered likely that the object lesson which was presented by Japan would have its influence upon the Chinese, especially as the latter have been seeking instruction from their active and intelligent neighbour and seemed at last to recognise that they might share in the advantages which Japan has secured through her careful study of foreign ways, both political and scientific. It must, indeed, have become clear to the more enlightened among the Chinese that, if it could only act in the same way, similar benefits might be obtainable by their country; and this fact once realised it was not too much to hope that they would be induced to give up some of their antiquated ideas and strike out a new and more practical course for themselves. There seems, however, too much reason to conclude that any such change must at best be one of very slow development. No doubt China is endeavouring to

gain some instructions from the Japanese, but there is too much ground to fear that she will in this instance, as in so many other previous instances, endeavour only to obtain specific knowledge in particular directions in the hope that it may be of use to her in strengthening her position in dealing with foreigners, but with no idea of learning anything from Europeans, which may enable the Chinese to improve their intellectual tone and internal administration, and thus raise the status of China as a whole. It is noticeable that, in referring to the subject, the Chinese always speak of foreign methods, never of foreign principles. They are too fully convinced of the superiority of their country in regard to the latter to imagine that anything can possibly be learnt from outsiders in this respect. It might be thought that what they have seen of late in a neighbouring country would to some extent have disillusioned them, and that their conceit would give way before undeniable facts. But it is clear that, as yet, they have learnt very little in this direction; and that it will be only by very slow degrees that any radical improvement in internal administration can be hoped for. At the same time it is encouraging to find that the Rev. Mr. BITTON recognises some indications that the Chinese are not so blindly attached to their classics as they were formerly. He states that "in the minds of the younger generation, and the more intelligent of the older, there has come the suspicion deepening into conviction that in the crucial test of foreign relationship Confucianism has failed them, and they must look outside for the needed strengthening ideas." This is, no doubt, true; but unfortunately it is equally true that they still adhere to the false principles of government which are derived from the classics with unabated tenacity. So long as they keep to their habit of striving to bring every new piece of knowledge within the limits of the principles of their defective philosophy, there can be little hope that they will materially advance. This, however, has been their habit from time immemorial, and the belief that nothing can be worthy of serious study that has not the stamp of ancient Chinese authority is still generally adhered to. For this reason it is not surprising that progress has been slow. Mr. BITTON points out that "in almost all instances it has been the case that colleges for Western knowledge in China have been unsuccessful unless under the direction of foreigners," and he notes pertinently that a type of official, nominally in sympathy with foreign institutions but in reality anti-foreign in spirit, has within the last few years turned towards Japan as the place where China can "send her youth without spoiling their Confucian idealism." He estimates that there are at the present time some two thousand Chinese thus studying in Japan; but he is not by any means sanguine as to the results, and looks upon the movement as a passing phase "producing dangers which inevitably spring from a little knowledge."

No doubt past experience goes far to justify the fears thus expressed; but at the same time it is open to question whether Mr. BITTON does not somewhat underestimate the effect likely to be produced, even upon Chinese stolidity, by coming in contact with minds almost as well acquainted as their own with their own system of morals and philosophy, and yet able accurately to grasp the full value, not only of the material science, but of the political, moral and, to some extent at least, also the religious systems of Western nations.

Lessons coming from such a source must have far greater weight than they can possibly have when taught by the ablest Europeans, whose knowledge of the Chinese classics and sympathy with Chinese modes of thought is, of course, limited as compared with that of the Japanese, who in their day have taken all that was good from Chinese civilization; and, as time went on, have abandoned or modified it in favour of the more enlightened ideas of Western nations—who, in fact, have solved the problem which the more advanced thinkers in China are now essaying. That some such effect is being produced, there is evidence, in the fact that Japanese teachers are being employed in many hundreds of schools in China. This at least shows that the Chinese are alive to the necessity of obtaining knowledge from the West; but everything must depend upon the spirit in which it is received. If the Chinese can be roused by their Japanese instructors to go to the root of matters and to endeavour to extract from the civilization of the West its true principles instead of confining themselves to merely trying to better the instruction by infusing it into their own system, there is room for hope that by degrees a change will be wrought in the Chinese mind which may open the door to salutary reforms, both political and moral. It is possible that the Japanese may have sufficient influence with them to induce them so to approach the subject in this spirit, in which case favourable results may in time be looked for. Certainly this is the only direction in which there seems to be a gleam of hope. Foreign nations have failed; but Japan may possibly, for the reasons above indicated, be able to convince the Chinese that if they wish to maintain their position among the nations they must endeavour to acquire a real knowledge of the principles upon which modern civilization is founded; and adapt them (as the Japanese themselves have done) to the circumstances and requirements of their own country.

CHINA AND MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press 11th October.)

It is not a thing of usual occurrence to have to blame the Chinese, especially in matters diplomatic, of acting with undue haste. Perhaps the late attempt at boycotting American goods may be an instance where haste has been justified by results, but even here it is doubtful if a little more circumspectness would not have been equally efficacious in bringing about the desired result. We have every respect for the desire of the Chinese Government to get rid of its unwelcome Russian guests in Manchuria, but we feel anything but assured that in pressing on Russia and Japan its wish to be at once relieved of the presence of the alien troops it is really advancing the end it has in view. It would be well for China to remember that her own non-chalance and apparent indifference to Russia's very evident desire to make herself perfectly at home along her northern frontiers was the main thing that encouraged that Power in her encroachment; and that had it not been for Japan's promptitude in taking up the gage which she found literally lying at her feet, uncared for and unnoticed by China, Russia at the present moment would have been in unchallenged possession of Moukden and all eastern Manchuria. It is not too much to say, in the words of the old dwellers in Syria, that the stars in their courses are fighting for China; and that her wisest

policy with regard to Manchuria is a masterful inactivity. We do not go so far as to assert that nothing remains for China to do; she has a vast field before her in developing her hitherto neglected possessions, and in putting her household in order, and herein she will find abundance of present occupation. On the other hand we do not conceal from ourselves that Japan is ambitious, nor that her over-teeming population is seeking expansion—but these are things to which it will momentarily be wise for China to close her eyes. China is immensely the gainer by the recent cessation of hostilities, but Russia is still dangerous, and though her power for mischief has been curbed, she is evidently quite prepared to continue her old policy of intrigue. On the other hand Japan has only just entered into a close alliance with England, and the integrity of China is one of the points—if, indeed, it be not the main point—of England's policy in the East, and in this policy for her own sake Japan is bound to coincide. But as we have said, though Russia is scotched she is by no means disposed to abandon her old tricks, and already is beginning to attribute the, perhaps premature, abandonment of the war to Japan's fear of the prowess of her hitherto unproved general, LINIEVITCH; at all events certain of her advisers are engaged throwing out feelers as to the possible contingency of her electing to retain her military position in Manchuria. True, such a course would be in deliberate contravention of her own most solemn engagements, but engagements even of the most solemn character have never hitherto stood in the way of Russia's advance when her ambition for conquest stood in the way; and there is certainly no reason to suppose that Russia's conduct for the future will in any way, especially on a point of honour, differ from what it has been in the past. In this respect China cannot afford to throw a stone at Russia; the latter's presence in Manchuria was, indeed, brought about by China's own crooked policy of seeking to use Russia's ambition to treacherously get rid of her own engagements; and Russia, should she attempt to bring diplomatic pressure, is sure to throw this in her face. If, on the other hand, she seek by ill-timed diplomatic pressure to induce Japan to prematurely evacuate Manchuria, and thereby alienate her friendship, she will only have succeeded in removing the last guarantee she possesses for the eventual return to her own rule of the coveted territory.

CHINESE HOSTILITY TO FOREIGN RAILWAY ENTERPRISE.

(Daily Press, 12th October).

Next to the movement to boycott American products no feature of Chinese public life has been more noteworthy during the last twelve months than the growth of public sentiment against the construction of railways in China by foreign syndicates. We in Hongkong feel a particular interest in this matter because this sentiment apparently is responsible for the inability of the British and Chinese Corporation to arrive at a definite agreement with the authorities at Peking relative to that section of the projected Kowloon-Canton line which will run through Chinese territory to connect at the frontier with that section of the line for which our Colonial Government has made itself responsible. A week ago our Canton correspondent furnished us with a translation of a dispatch sent by Viceroy SHUM to the Minister of Mines and Railways, in which His Excel-

lency wrote: "I have repeatedly telegraphed to the Wai-wu-pu and also to SHEUNG SHUEN-WAI requesting them to devise means to prevent this important railway falling entirely into the hands of foreigners. It is absolutely necessary that the funds required for construction work should be raised by the Chinese themselves, in order to secure the right of control over the railway." The Viceroy further states that he has been instructed by the Wai-wu-pu, by telegram, "to hold firmly to the view he has taken." What the British and Chinese Corporation are asking for is the co-operation of local capitalists, but the Viceroy, "though unfortunately the provincial coffers are far from overflowing," is nevertheless insistent that "the huge sum" required for this 110 miles of railway should be subscribed by Chinese entirely. There is evidently also a strong desire existing among the Chinese interested in the projected Canton-Macao line to get rid of the agreement which provides that half the capital shall be subscribed by Portuguese subjects. It is suggested in the vernacular papers that the Chinese syndicate which undertook to find half the capital is impatient at the delay of the Portuguese syndicate in getting its share of the capital subscribed; but our information is that the Portuguese portion of the capital has already been subscribed in anticipation of the ratification of the agreement by the Government at Lisbon, and that the delay is entirely due to the procrastination of the Lisbon authorities. Be that as it may, an excuse has been afforded for an agitation to induce the Chinese Government to cancel the agreement, and to grant the concession up to the boundary of the Portuguese Colony to Chinese subjects exclusively. The success of the agitation for the cancellation of the concession granted to the American-China Development Company for the building of the great trunk line from Canton to Hankow has given an immense flip to opposition to foreign enterprise all over the country. We note that the Kiangsi students, who are studying in Japan, having learnt that the Chinese capitalist who has obtained a concession for making a line from Kiu-kiang to Nanchang had obtained part of his capital from a foreign source, telegraphed to Peking requesting the cancellation of the concession. A compromise was suggested, but the students—the future tutors of the nation—insist on cancellation. In Che-kiang the people are also expressing in memorials to the Throne their objection to the foreign control of railways in the province and requesting the cancellation of the concession granted in 1898 to a British Company for a line running from Soochow to Ningpo and passing through Hangchow. SHENG KUNG-PAO, it is reported, has been instructed by the Throne to cancel the preliminary argument. He appears to have given expression to the opinion that as seven years have elapsed since the agreement was made and the concessionaires have neither secured the capital nor surveyed the line the concession has already been forfeited! We suppose what SHENG would advance the same agreement in the case of the Canton-Kowloon line, and perhaps has done so already. In the province of Shansi, SHENG is being denounced in a memorial which is being prepared for presentation to the Throne, and the people of the province are supporting a movement, inaugurated in the neighbouring province of Kiangsu, to get the Shanghai-Nanking Railway Concession cancelled. As, however, we are glad to know, the construc-

tion of that line by the British and Chinese Corporation is well in hand, there is no possibility of the agitation in those provinces having a successful issue, though it may not unlikely cause the syndicate much trouble and annoyance.

This cry of "China for the Chinese" is a factor to be reckoned with by foreign syndicates having railway concessions in the country. The idea is evidently prevalent in the minds of the younger generation of Chinese that what Japan has accomplished China can likewise accomplish by the same methods. We can see in many directions the influence of the modern history of Japan on China, and the fact will not have passed unnoticed that it is the Chinese who have studied in Japan who are promoting not only this agitation against the foreign control of railways in Japan but many of the more laudable movements tending to the reform of the administration of the country. They have lived in Japan, have travelled over her network of railways, have learnt that though some of the trunk lines were built under the supervision of European engineers, no foreign syndicates supplied the capital and consequently none ever exercised control. Russian territorial aggrandisement in Manchuria taught "Young China" that the granting of railway concessions to foreign Powers was a menace to the integrity of the empire. The history of the Canton-Hankow concession enforced the lesson, and now we have throughout the country a public sentiment strongly antagonistic to the employment of foreign capital in any more railways. Many of the present efforts to procure the cancellation of concessions already granted will doubtless prove futile, but we shall probably have long to wait before we hear of another concession being granted by the Chinese Government.

BRITISH POLICY IN CHINA.

(Daily Press 13th October.)

THE London Times, in a leading article, recently remarked that the policy of "spheres of influence" in China was never one which commended itself to the British nation *per se*. "It was a device," said the Times, "which circumstances compelled us to adopt when we found that our old-established interests were threatened by rivals who had less respect for the integrity of China than we had ourselves, and if, and when, it shall be proved to have served its purpose, we shall part with it without a pang." The provision in the Anglo-Japanese Alliance for the maintenance of the territorial *status quo* in China, is regarded in itself as enough to show that the time is past when a Power, after selecting some portion of China as its "sphere of influence" could expand it by a variety of devices, in the hope of ultimately converting it into something like a freehold. China herself, as we pointed out yesterday, is now fully alive to the dangers of this policy, and we may certainly regard the time as past when what happened in Manchuria can be re-enacted in any other part of China. The danger now is that the reaction may for some years operate to the detriment of foreign commercial enterprises of all kinds in China. Already strong communications have been addressed to the British Government by British residents in Shanghai regarding the way in which the Chinese authorities are, in the matter of mining enterprises for example, rendering the provisions of the Mackay Treaty abortive. The officials will not grant mining permits to foreigners except on conditions which are tantamount to a refusal, and the vernacular

press supplies ample evidence of the hostility of the people to foreign control of prospective railways. And yet in spite of this hostility we publish this morning a summary of an agreement made by the Hongkong Government to lend £1,100,000 to the Chinese authorities towards the sum required for the re-purchase of the Hankow-Canton railway concession. The story at first seemed incredible for many reasons, but doubt has been dispelled by the publication of the agreement in a Chinese semi official journal at Shanghai. A northern contemporary has expressed the opinion that this loan will undoubtedly have the effect of securing that British influence shall be paramount in the regions served by the railway. Very possibly it will, but it is interesting to note that though the Chinese acquire by this redemption a profitable line of railway running between Canton and Simshui, the security given for the loan does not include this or any other property of the railway company. The security offered and accepted is that of the opium revenues in the three provinces of Hupeh, Hunan and Kwangtung through which the projected line will pass. We trust, however, that the Government has some assurance that the Chinese authorities will not rest satisfied with the redemption of the concession, but will without delay push vigorously on with the construction of the line which will open up regions of vast possibilities to the trade and commerce of the whole world, and incidentally, we hope, be to the considerable benefit of Hongkong. That the British Government has departed from its traditional policy of leaving everything to private effort in China, so far as to permit the Government of Hongkong to make this loan, is a matter for sincere congratulation, for we regard it as an indication that the Government has at last acquired a grasp of the economic position in China. The fact is realised that those who control the railways will almost inevitably control the commercial future of the country, and though this loan by the Hongkong Government does not secure any control of the railway, it at least helps to remove the control from a combination whose policy would not in all likelihood leave the regions traversed by the line as free and open to British trade and commerce as they will be under the altered conditions.

HONGKONG'S RAILWAY LOAN.

(Daily Press 14th October).

NEVER before probably in the history of our Legislative Council has a Bill sanctioning the raising of any considerable sum of money been passed through its various stages without discussion, as was the Bill which, in the space of ten minutes, was read a first, second and third time in the Council Chamber yesterday, authorising the raising of a loan of Two Million Pounds sterling for defraying the cost of construction of the Hongkong section of the Canton-Kowloon railway and "other railway purposes." The term "other railway purposes" refers to the re-purchase by the Chinese Government of the concession granted seven or eight years ago to an American syndicate for the making of a line of railway from Canton to Hankow, and certain short branch lines. H.E. the GOVERNOR, in a few disappointingly brief remarks at the meeting of the Council yesterday, said he did not think it would be to the public interest to dilate on the Agreement, the terms of which had already been published in the public press, nor necessary,

as he had reason to believe the members of the Council had sufficient knowledge of the general principles guiding the policy of the Government in the matter. If that be so, the members of the Council must be in an exceptionally favoured position. The policy of the British Government in regard to affairs Chinese has evidently quite recently undergone remarkable change, and it would be extremely interesting to hear more about it. Probably we should have had to wait yet longer for the information we already have, had not a Chinese journal in Shanghai, evidently having access to official archives, prematurely published the text of the agreement. The very palpable restraint shown by His EXCELLENCY yesterday we take to be an indication that the Chinese, to use the expressive phrase of common parlance, have "given the show away." But for this evidently unexpected publication of the Agreement it might have been assumed that the words "other Railway purposes" in the Ordinance had reference to the section of the Kowloon-Canton railway beyond the limits of British territory. It is to be regretted that His EXCELLENCY did not take advantage of the opportunity yesterday to make some announcement as to what progress, if any, is being made with the negotiations for the making of that section of the Canton-Kowloon railway which will run through Chinese territory, and the only conclusion to be drawn from the very guarded utterance of the GOVERNOR is that, so far as the Kowloon railway is concerned, there is no immediate hurry for the money. But the terms of the agreement regarding the re-purchase of the Canton-Hankow railway concession by the Chinese Government, which we reproduced in our issue of yesterday, make clear the necessity for immediately raising the sum of £1,100,000, which the Hongkong Government has agreed to lend. An instalment of £400,000 is stated to have been paid to the Chinese authorities already; and this might be taken to indicate that His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR is assured that no difficulty will be experienced in obtaining the money from London. China agreed to pay to the American-China Development Company, as an indemnity for the cancellation of the concession, the sum of \$6,750,000 gold, and the £1,100,000 which the Hongkong Government has agreed to lend to the Chinese Government practically represents the full amount in English currency. All British subjects interested in the China question will recognise in this a wise and timely stroke of business, and even those who can play no claim to a sufficient knowledge of the new "principles guiding the policy of the Government," may make a very shrewd guess at their purport. Next to the conclusion of the new alliance with Japan, the loan is one of the best efforts yet made by the British Government to keep the door in China open to the trade and commerce of the world.

We regret to learn from the *Japan Mail* that Admiral Rozhdestvensky's condition is not at all satisfactory. The wounds on his body are healed but that on his head is still open, and there are plain evidences that the bone has been splintered. But as the wound is deep, reaching to the immediate neighbourhood of the brain, the surgeons cannot meddle with it. In addition to this the Admiral is attacked by gastric troubles from which he has long suffered. He is unable to move without assistance, and his legs are much swollen. If this last symptom comes from the heart, the case is serious. A Tokyo message to the *Mainichi*, states that Vice-Admiral Rozhdestvensky has been promoted to the rank of Admiral.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber yesterday.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, MAJOR SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

Hon. Colonel C. H. DARLING, R.E. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir H. S. BERKELEY, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. BASIL H. TAYLOR, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. R. SHEWAN.

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. GERSHOM STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. W. C. DICKSON.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

HIS EXCELLENCY—In accordance with standing order No. 47 I have appointed the following committees:—Finance Committee—All the members of the Council with the hon. the Colonial Secretary as chairman. Law Committee—The hon. the Attorney General as chairman, and the hon. the Harbour Master the hon. Dr. Ho Kai, the hon. Mr. Shewan, and the hon. Mr. Wei Yuk as members. Public Works Committee—The hon. the Director of Public Works as chairman, and the hon. the Colonial Treasurer, the hon. Sir Paul Chater, the hon. Mr. Dickson, and the hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart as members.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the minutes Nos. 43 to 48 be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

RAILWAY LOANS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I rise to ask leave to introduce and read for the first time a bill entitled An Ordinance for raising the sum of Two Million Pounds by loan for the purpose of defraying the cost of a Railway from Kowloon and for other railway purposes.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, I have called you together for an extraordinary meeting to pass the Railways Loan Bill of 1905. This Bill, in addition to authorising me to raise funds for the construction of the Hongkong section of the railway from Canton to Kowloon, is connected with the agreement announced in the "China Mail" of the 7th and the "South China Morning Post" of the 9th instant. It is not in the public interest that I should dilate here on the subject of that Agreement, the general terms of which have appeared in the public press, nor is this necessary as I have reason to believe honourable members have sufficient knowledge of the principles guiding the Government's policy in the matter. The amount included in the Bill makes ample provision for the expenditure it is intended to cover. It is only an authority for me to raise funds as occasion requires, and I will see that you are informed when any loan is actually raised on that authority.

The motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I rise to move that standing order No. 38 be suspended in order to move the second reading of this Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I rise now to move that this Bill be read a second time. The reasons which have led to its introduction have been stated by His Excellency to the House, as well as the reason why the Bill should be passed into law at once. The objects of the Bill are sufficiently set out in the preamble to obviate the necessity of my taking up the time of this Council in explanation as to the details of this Bill. It has long

been the hope of every person interested in the colony of Hongkong that a railway from Kowloon to the frontier should be built, and this Bill gives the opportunity of seeing the accomplishment of that desire.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I move that the Council resolve itself into committee to consider this Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Bill was then considered clause by clause. On the Council resuming,

HIS EXCELLENCY said—I have to report that the Bill, entitled An Ordinance for raising the sum of Two Million Pounds by Loan for the purpose of defraying the cost of a Railway from Kowloon and for other Railway purposes, has passed through committee with only verbal amendments.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I move that, no member objecting, this Bill be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned till after the meeting of the Finance Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed:

EDUCATIONAL.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Fifty-three Dollars (\$53) in aid of the vote, Education—Other Charges. Belilos Public School, for incidental expenses.

JUDICIAL AND LEGAL.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Six hundred dollars (\$600) in aid of the vote, Judicial and Legal Departments, Land Registry Office, for New Territories,—Other Charges, for Language Allowance to Mr. J. R. Wood, assistant land officer, who has passed the examination in the Cantonese dialect.

RAINSTORM DAMAGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two thousand three hundred and fifty dollars (\$2,350) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, for rainstorm damages.

PRINTING.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, for printing miscellaneous papers.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in aid of the vote, 22 Miscellaneous Services, telegrams sent and received by Government.

GAP ROCK CABLE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of five thousand eight hundred and seventy-one dollars and sixty-five cents (\$5,871.65) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, for repairs to gap rock cable.

On the Council resuming,

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said—I have to report that the Finance Committee have just considered the Financial minutes No. 43 to 48 and have approved of them. Under these circumstances I move their adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

A NEW CLOCK TOWER.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I took the opportunity of the meeting to-day to get the Director of Public Works to lay on the table a plan showing the elevation of a Clock Tower which it has been suggested might be added to the Post Office Buildings. I am no more convinced than when I last spoke on the subject that the general desire is to remove the old Clock Tower but I think opportunity might be taken of this new building in course of erection to add to it a Clock Tower which would be visible from the harbour generally and from the different levels of Victoria City. I should like members to look at the plan. The Council stands adjourned *sine die*.

A Peking message says that the British authorities have commenced work on a harbour at Weihaiwei with a view of the place becoming an open port; the Chinese Government is said to approve the scheme.

THE CLOCK TOWER.

A PLEA FOR ITS PRESERVATION.

(Contributed.)

When the critics of the Government find themselves so "graveled for lack of matter" that they are driven to fall back upon renewing, after a year's inactivity, the attack upon the Clock Tower the fact shows in a striking and satisfactory manner how little the Colony has to complain of at the hands of its administrators. Presumably if there were any very serious wrongs to be put right no eloquence or attention would be devoted to airing this minor and, to my mind, merely imaginary grievance. The fact that attention and eloquence have been thus devoted is a tolerably sure indication of a famine in the land where genuine grievances grow. In the absence of genuine grievances publicists and pressmen labour under a powerful temptation to manufacture spurious ones. By this I do not mean that grievances are consciously and deliberately concocted, but that, under the strain of the painful necessity of utterance—a predicament meriting general sympathy—critics struggling in adversity, searching vainly for things gone wrong, are apt subjectively to create imaginary objects of attack, just as Don Quixote's fevered fancy turned the windmills into knights.

Thus it has come about that many ill-advised agitations have been set on foot of late years for no better reason apparently than that those who must be talking may find something to say. Many instances will readily occur to old residents. They will remember first and foremost the agitation in favour of representative government. The amount of ostensible support that this revolutionary proposal received was as astonishing as it was misleading. A petition praying for it was freely signed and not only by persons of no account. Many men in leading positions signed it, men who subsequently in private were more than ready to admit that with a population such as ours the scheme would have worked disastrously. All sensible men saw that and yet they allowed the agitation to go on for years with the consent that silence is supposed to indicate. Indeed it did not die until the departure from the Colony of its industrious but misguided promoter. With the cessation of the latter's tireless advocacy of an impossible idea—with the last of his long and dreary harangues on the subject—this particularly stupid "cry" sputtered ignominiously out. In its inception it was insincere, in the sense that no one really desired the change advocated; no one ever thought it safe or even practicable and yet, as long as the "clack" was kept up, no public protest against it was made.

Again, take the more recent case of the agitation in favour of putting the currency of Hongkong on a gold basis independently of any action which China might take in the matter. The rate of exchange had been falling rapidly and, in the panic thus created, many people were to be found clamouring for the Colony to "go gold" on a one-and-sevenpenny dollar. Now that the dollar is well over 1s. 11d. these people must be aware of the unwisdom of the outcry they then raised and feel grateful to "the powers that be" for having saved them from themselves. Numerous instances might be cited to show that in this community it is not at all safe to assume that because a certain number of people, more vocal than the rest, cry aloud for something to be done, it necessarily means that there is any real need or even genuine desire for change. Silence in these matters, on the part of the people who disapprove does, not mean consent in Hongkong; it means faith and hope that the Government will do nothing rash. In all such cases experience has proved that the wisest course for the Government to pursue is a policy of masterly inactivity and even in less important matters than those indicated the best thing for them to do is just nothing, until the storm of excited words has blown itself out and in the succeeding calm the still small voice of wisdom can make itself heard.

In the comparatively unimportant matter of the recently-renewed attack upon the Clock Tower it is earnestly to be hoped that the Government may pursue a Fabian policy and refuse to surrender, without much better cause than has yet been shown, the position hithert

so wisely maintained in the face of this annually recurring clamour. Up to now the enemies of the old edifice have had it all their own way. They have loudly called a wind to blow it down. Now there has come a lull and in the calm a word from a friend may perhaps be listened to. It is a word dragged painfully out of a usually silent person by a sense of indignation caused by the thoughtless manner in which an act of wanton vandalism is being urged upon the Government.

First I must attempt to clear the ground over which the combined attack has been delivered. I call it a combined attack because the forces which are directed towards the Tower's removal are disunited on the question of its ultimate fate. Aesthetically they are divided into camps holding diametrically opposite views as to the cause of their discontent. On the one hand there is a group protesting that the edifice is too ugly to be suffered any longer to exist and demanding that it shall be pulled down and cast into the sea. On the other there are those who consider that the Tower's architectural merits entitle it to a more prominent position than it occupies at present and who for this reason desire to have it removed and set up on the Praya where it may command more general attention and confer greater pleasure upon an appreciative public. When opinions differ so widely the truth of the matter is generally to be found about midway between them, and it is just here that it seems to me to lie in the present dispute.

As far as I can see, the Tower is by no means unsightly, of course Taste, is purely a personal matter; one man likes this style, another that; there is no absolute criterion. Each man as he moves about the world acquires a certain modicum and each man naturally prefers his own to any other. For myself, I happen to have seen the Taj and the Jumma Masjid and every day I learn something from the back view of our own Cricket Pavilion and the gentle graces of the Provost Prison. Reflecting upon the merits of the last two mentioned and remembering that against these no outcry has been made I feel strengthened to say that a public whose artistic feelings remain unruffled under the strain which these might have been expected to impose cannot seriously pretend to be badly afflicted by anything the Clock Tower can conceivably do to offend the sight. However, I do not happen to possess any special qualifications for judging architecture and can easily conceive that a more highly educated eye than mine may be able to detect faults to which I am blind. In matters of detail or technique I would be quite prepared to learn that modern canons of art are variously transgressed and to hear why the belfry is not altogether satisfactory, but, when all is said, the total effect, though not arousing any very poignant pleasure, need give rise to no such violent antipathy as that which characterised a memorable outburst of rhetorical rage in impassioned advocacy of its destruction a year ago.

From one point of view the aspect of the Tower is distinctly pleasing. From the bottom of Pedder Street it is seen to stand well up above the old houses immediately behind and with the Roman Catholic Cathedral rising stately in the background and Sir Paul Chater's towers peeping over far above, it materially helps to form one of the most picturesque vistas to be met with in the streets of Hongkong. Imagine the Clock Tower removed, and try to see, with the mind's eye, the resulting picture with its uninterrupted view of a gaping shop-front in the pigeon-hole style of architecture—and you will realise what a plain, even ugly effect would replace the existing one. There would then be nothing to relieve an overwhelming sense of oppression caused by the sheer and hideous precipice of the Hotel. The common-sense of the matter seems to be that on grounds of ugliness there is no case made out for the Tower's destruction. But though it looks well enough where it is I doubt if it would look at all well down on the Praya. At present its height is augmented by the fact that it stands on a rise, with old and low houses on the right and in rear. Down on the sea front it would appear somewhat insignificant in comparison with the lofty buildings rising there on every hand. The case for removal is not convincing

The whole aesthetic case, divided, falls to the ground.

The case for removal, in so far as it rests on the plea of invisibility, cannot be so easily disposed of. Considerable admissions must be made, though not without certain reservations. It may be freely admitted at once that people who never go half way up the Queen's Road, or through Pedder Street, or along Des Vœux Road where it crosses Pedder Street, will never see the Clock Tower at all, unless from the higher levels. But it must not be forgotten that both Pedder Street and Des Vœux Road (where these cross and the tram has practically a station) are both busy thoroughfares. No clock, whether on tower or building, could now be seen from all parts of the town. Put it where you will comparatively few people can profit by it and I know of no reason why those who move in the vicinity of Pedder Street should not have the advantage as well as any others. But this is not a point that need be pressed. There are undoubtedly better places for a clock. The ideal place at present is the tower on Queen's Buildings, visible for a long way both from the east and the west. But possibly the Law Courts may uplift a still more commanding tower. It will be interesting to see.

In any case it may be admitted that our old Tower has outlived its time in respect of elevation. In these days of sky-scrapers it is manifestly out of date. Forty years ago it topped the town. To-day the position is reversed. What then? If a town clock higher up is really wanted, have it by all means, but why destroy the old one?

This question raises the main point of the combined attack. It is alleged by both demolishers and removers that the Tower blocks traffic. This is the most serious allegation made and it requires to be seriously considered. If it were true the old edifice would, rightly and properly, have to be moved.

It is not true. I can speak with authority on this point. I have carefully studied the question for over a year—ever since the memorable outburst already alluded to. I have watched the roadway there to see what amount of truth was in the contention. I have had exceptional opportunities for watching it. Two or three and often four and five or even six times a day I have had occasion to pass up Pedder Street and out into the Queen's Road, or vice versa, in a ricksha. Not once have I ever seen anything that could fairly be called an obstruction in the traffic. Every day I witness obstruction of traffic—in Ice House Street, for example—but never in Pedder Street. The allegation was untrue, in the sense of being a gross exaggeration, when it was made. It is simply nonsense repeated now. The opening of the electric tramway transferred a large stream of traffic from Queen's Road to Des Vœux Road and the latter is now for all practical purposes the main road. Queen's Road is positively quiet compared to what it used to be and so far from there being a jam of traffic at the corner by the Post Office, I notice that Post Office trucks are often left lying in the roadway, empty; apparently without any protest from anybody and therefore apparently in nobody's way. Put one in Ice House Street at the Des Vœux Road corner and then perhaps the people who decry the Clock Tower as an obstruction to traffic would understand what obstruction means.

The alleged obstruction amounts to this, at the present time, that the Tower stands in the way of those, and only those, who imitate the critics of the Government in wilfully running their heads up against it.

This pretty well covers the ground chosen by the assailants in making their renewed attack. On their own ground it is quite easy to defeat them. On ground chosen for defense it will, I think be easier still. I invite them on to it.

The ground upon which the defenders of the Clock Tower would naturally choose to take their stand is the general principle, governing all present relations with the past, that it is highly undesirable to destroy more than is absolutely necessary. Life needs room for growth, of course; and, whenever it can be clearly shewn that the claims of even the most sacred dead interfere with the well-being of the living, necessity assumes an absolute aspect and rightly refuses to know any law. This is the warrant

and the only warrant for the destruction of the record; and the relics of the past. To destroy otherwise than under it is nothing less than savagery. In this sense, modern civilization is often savage. It is savage when it acts as if unmindful of the humanising view of history as "an endless chain of causes and effects"—a continuous growth, not a chapter of accidents,—when it acts as if inspired by nothing nobler than the roysterer's gospel "let us eat and drink for to-morrow we die"; when it digs up heedlessly or tramples down relentlessly; when it displays either indifference to the hope of the future or forgetfulness of what is owed to the past; when it is selfish and sordid and its outlook is bounded by mean material considerations; and again when it is wantonly destructive. The passion to destroy is essentially savage and men, even the most modern, frequently display savagery when acting together as a crowd. A crowd is always on the verge of destruction. The least inflammatory word said, and down go the railings and whizz go the stones. It is so in a larger sense; and when thus the devil of destruction enters into and possesses the modern spirit modern civilization, then beside itself, grows hard and heartless and begets savages, clothed though these may be in fine linen and frock coats. Savages know nothing about the past and care less. They live from hand to mouth from day to day and ask nothing of how or whence they came or whither they are bound. To ask this is the distinguishing feature of the civilized man and no man is civilized in the true sense who, in his attitude towards the future, has no reverent consideration for the past.

It may be said that our chief concern is with the future. Undoubtedly it is. "Eyes front! Forward!" is the everlasting command. But we go forward all the more steadily if we do not omit to "greet the unseen with a cheer." It is the spirit of their ancestors that makes Japanese infantry the finest in the world. "Let the dead past bury its dead." By all means. But this does not mean that it should be quickly forgotten. Let the corpse be decently buried. Don't stamp a hasty contemptuous heel upon its helpless upturned face. Don't destroy. Time's fell hand will do that fast enough. Be a little tender towards the old days and the old ways wherein and whereby the roads to success, along which, perchance, we now go galloping gaily, were painfully laid. These were neither levelled without labour nor straightened without pain. In the top dressing is mingled the blood and bones of our forerunners. Do not despise the old road builders. They builded better than they knew. We who follow in their footsteps know how well it becomes us, therefore, to hold the Colony's past in grateful and affectionate remembrance and to guard jealously whatsoever may serve to remind us of the various stages in its progress. This is the application of the general principle to Hongkong. The general principle will not be gainsaid, nor will its general application to the affairs of the Colony. Only its application in a particular instance is under dispute. Let me attempt to apply it more narrowly.

It has frequently been remarked that Far Eastern commercial cities are, as a rule, very uninteresting. It has often been observed that the reason is the poverty of their historical associations. Projected suddenly into existence by an entirely new turn of events they are all more or less in the same plight. From Singapore to Yokohama, the criticism applies, though Macao may be held to escape it. Interesting in one way they all are, but everyone knows what is meant. You arrive; you are pleased by the general aspect of the town; you land and admire fine buildings set out along the front, like the goods in a shop window; you are taken to the Club; you go out for a walk; you "look round" and all is over. It is different when you go to Calcutta. Why? Because Calcutta has a story to tell and has preserved many monuments to give it point. These others have only short and rather dull stories to relate and, as if in despair of making what little there is interesting, they have preserved next to nothing. This does not apply only to the Far East. It is much the same with the commercial towns on the Pacific slope—Vancouver, Portland, Seattle, even San Francisco. As regards

the latter there is this to be said, that the townspeople are sufficiently advanced to have felt the need of monuments. One which I found erected in memory of the fact that R.L.S. worked there on a newspaper seemed to show the urgency of their need. It is a human need, older by far than the Pyramids, old as the stone age, and its indulgence has a humanising effect. This also will not be gainsaid. Only its application to the Clock Tower question is missed. This I shall strive to make clear.

Hongkong was for a long time better off than most Far Eastern towns, though poorer, of course, than Macao, in this respect. The works of Price made her, at any rate, beautiful in places mostly unregarded now. But there has been a sad failure to preserve. A few years ago Glenealy was a triumph of art and nature, working in combination. Now look at it! Glenealy, the most beautiful of Price's many dreams is destroyed. Inevitable? Perhaps. Perhaps not. That word is ever in the mouths of those who take such things "lying down." Anyhow, irrevocable. And irrevocably old Hongkong is passing away, and soon will disappear beneath the great ranges of modern mountainous buildings which tower increasingly skyward. So be it. But it is just here that the usefulness of the Clock Tower, as a reminder of the days that were, comes in. Though we have no dramatic history of blood and war to commemorate, we have a remarkable record of rapid progress and this story the Clock Tower is better able to tell than all the books that ever will be written.

This view of it as a memento of bygone days cuts the ground completely from under the feet of the assaulting party, and makes light of the reasons advanced for the Tower's demolition. You can indulge a fanciful admission of them all (with the exception of the alleged block to traffic) and still remain untouched as a defender. Take, for instance, the allegation that the Clock cannot well be seen owing to the way in which the height of houses in the vicinity has increased. Admit it. Let more high and terrific houses, frowning down upon it, be put there in fancy or built there in fact. This will only increase its value as a historical monument. As such, the fact that it is largely invisible becomes highly valuable, because, as soon as the fact is seized upon, it becomes instantly instructive and in a most striking manner. It tells the reflective observer that once upon a time the surrounding houses only came up to the knees of our latter day structures. It tells him of a low-built, small, and compact town, struggling for existence manfully with its back against the wall of the Peak and anxiously looking out for a monthly mail from England and the opium clippers from Calcutta. It carries his thoughts back half a century to the pithy days of British influence in China when old King Pam was the inspiring influence, and men like Consul Parkes and Harry Keppel carried out his vigorous policy. And if the reflective observer stops to wonder why the town clock was placed where it could not be seen from the harbour and is led to enquire, he will learn that the sea only lately lapped the shore not a hundred and fifty yards below it, and realise why a British Admiral once urged the advisability of abandoning the island because there was no room for a town to grow on the mere ledge of land which nature had provided for the purpose. That such things ever were may be ultimately disbelieved, or perhaps forgotten altogether, unless some outward and visible sign is allowed to remain. Other things, perhaps better worth remembering, may also be forgotten. There is only space here to hint at the Tower's story. Our traditions, all told, are few, and perhaps inglorious. Nevertheless, they are ours and by us they ought to be preserved. "A poor thing but mine own." We ought to be proud of them, if only out of a sense of possession. From a material point of view we have reason, as a Colony, to be proud. The rapidity of our growth, the giant strides of our prosperity, are among the modern wonders of the world. Proud by all means let us be, but not with the arrogance of worldly success. True pride does not kick away the past. Only purse pride is ashamed of humble origins; its day of small things is despised, if possible forgotten. True pride reverences all that has enabled it to rise, and our true pride, in showing what we are,

should find pleasure in preserving and displaying all that shows also what we were.

No monument can tell the story of Hongkong's progress so well as the Clock Tower. Nothing else in the town explains so much; nothing in the Colony tells so briefly the broad facts. Other story-tellers remain, no doubt, each contributing their quota. Government House tells the story; Headquarter House tells it; East Point tells it by its old-fashioned gateway, its beautiful garden, its noble trees. These all speak historically, but they do not tell the story of the town's growth in particular. This the Clock Tower does, and for this reason it is earnestly to be desired by all who care for any of these things that the hand of the destroyer may be stayed and the venerable monument preserved as "a sermon in stone," as a link with the past, as a relic of old Hongkong.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR:—Referring to contributed articles in yesterday's and to-day's issues of the *Daily Press*, I am glad to see there is someone taking up the cudgels in defence of this old timepiece. I have often wondered why it is desired that the structure should be moved, and can assign no adequate reason. It is really not only an obstruction (as is averred), but on the contrary actually does the work of a policeman and divides the traffic; those who do not agree with this have but to stand for a few minutes during the busiest part of the day and observe for themselves. Now, as to its usefulness, this is surely undoubted as can be proved by asking all who land at, or depart from, Blake Pier; and from which point of vantage the structure also appears quite in keeping with its immediate surroundings and, at the same time, as your contributor remarks, stands in prominent memory of the early days of the Colony.

Your contributor has written so fully on the subject that it is unnecessary for me to say more, further than to advise all who are interested to read carefully the articles referred to, if they have not already done so.

Thanking you for the insertion of this letter and enclosing my card.—I am, etc.

"ANTI-MOVER"

Hongkong, 10th October, 1905.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR:—In connection with the articles that have appeared in your paper about the Clock Tower, I fail to see what really sound object your contributor had in writing at such length. There is a very large quantity of sentimentality and very little else. Hongkong is a progressive colony and, as such, has no time for sentiment. It seems as if your contributor is content to remain in one particular groove all his life, and doesn't see why others are not.

What good purpose does the Clock Tower serve to us in its present position? As a substitute for a policeman to regulate the traffic, it is a failure, and to tell one the time it is also useless to a certain degree. By this I mean that there is practically only one place where an uninterrupted view of the tower is possible and that is at the junction of Des Voeux Road and Pedder Street.

Passing along Queen's Road it cannot be seen, and it is also out of sight at Blake Pier.

Personally I don't consider that Hongkong requires an independent clock tower at all. In my humble opinion the proper place for a city clock is on the top of the General Post Office, now in course of erection. From there it would be visible to the Harbour, Kowloon and the Hill districts.

Apologising for thus trespassing on your valuable space.—I am, etc.

ANTI-SENTIMENTAL.

[Our correspondent will observe in the report of yesterday's proceedings at the Legislative Council, that plans were submitted for a Clock Tower to be added to the new Post Office building—a suggestion made for the first time in the *Daily Press* a year or more ago by our contributor "Banyan."—Ed.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR:—I have read with much interest the articles on the subject of the Clock Tower in recent issues of your paper and, as an old China hand, I entirely agree with the views therein expressed. I think that it would be a great pity to remove our old friend the Clock Tower from the position where it has stood for so long and where it does not, as far as my observation goes in any way impede the traffic.—Yours, etc.

OLD CHINA HAND.

Hongkong, 12th October, 1905.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR:—As one who has always been opposed to the idea of removing an ancient landmark like "The Clock Tower" from its present site, I hailed with delight the two very able articles in your issues of the 9th and 10th inst. The only ground upon which its removal could possibly be defended is that it impedes traffic, and I submit that in this the "Vandalists" have entirely failed to prove their case.

I have occasion, like the writer of the articles in question, to pass the Clock Tower many times a day and ever since the controversy arose have looked in vain for anything approaching the alleged block in traffic.

One can understand the owners and occupiers of adjoining property advocating its removal for very obvious reasons, which I trust will be estimated at their true value by "the powers that be," and I venture to think that a plebiscite would reveal that the general public is not incapable of seeing through them also.

Admitting that the Clock Tower possesses no great architectural beauty, it yet commemorates better than anything else amongst our public possessions history of which this Colony may well be proud.

Trusting that you will find space to publish this protest against its removal and thanking you in anticipation.—Your truly.

ANTI-VANDAL.

Hongkong, 12th October, 1905.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR:—Why all this pother about the Clock Tower? The great majority of folk do not care two straws whether the Clock Tower remains where it is or is thrown into the sea. Personally, I have no use for it, and as a memorial of Old Hongkong I scarcely think it deserves all the fine sentiment your contributor has wasted upon it. I disagree with the description applied to it by your correspondent "Anti-Mover," who pictures it as a policeman regulating the traffic. Certainly, it stands in the middle of the road, and like the resemblance ends, for it does not say to the wayward ricksha coolie, "Keep to the Right" or "Keep to the Left" as the case may be, but allows rickshas and chairs to jostle their way past in utter disregard of "the rules of the road," to the great discomfort of their "fares."

The Clock Tower is not a thing of beauty and I cannot conceive of it being a joy to any one. If the present and future generations are interested to know that when the Tower was erected in 1862 the water's edge was only a hundred and fifty yards beyond it, I do not see how that information is to be gleaned from a solid mass of masonry, unless it be your contributor's idea that the Government should place a tablet on the Tower mentioning the fact.

There are many historical records of Hongkong which tell us where the water-front was in the Sixties. Looking up Mr. Denby's "Treaty Ports," I notice that the Clock Tower was the subject of complaint from the time it was erected. It is placed, says the historian "in so awkward a position that it is only conspicuous or even visible from a point of view just opposite to it." And so it remains!

I have no idea what precise object the community had in view in erecting it, but presume it was a purely utilitarian object, and if that be so, I should think the Government would be acting conformably to the views of the old residents who subscribed to it if they removed it to a site on the water-front, and increased its height so that "the time o' day" might be seen from any ship in the harbour and by a far larger number of residents on shore than are able to see it now.—Yours faithfully.

OUTIS.

ALLEGED UNREASONABLE RESTRAINT OF TRADE.

DODWELL & CO., LD. v. E. J. MOSS.

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 5th inst. the hearing of the case of Dodwell & Co., Ltd. versus E. J. Moss, was commenced before Mr. Justice de Saumarez.

Mr. R. M. Macleod and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., appeared for the plaintiff company and Mr. Francis Ellis and Mr. Duncan McNeill appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Macleod read the following amended petition of the plaintiff company.

AMENDED PETITION.

The amended petition of the plaintiffs sheweth as follows:—

1.—Plaintiffs are general merchants and shipping and insurance and commission agents carrying on business at Foochow, in the Empire of China, Colombo and elsewhere.

2.—Defendant is a merchant carrying on business at Foochow aforesaid.

3.—By an agreement dated the 26th day of Nov., 1901, and made between George Benjamin Dodwell and the defendant Ernest Joseph Moss who were carrying on business under the style of Dodwell, Carlill and Co., at Foochow and elsewhere, of the one part, and the plaintiff company of the other part, it was agreed that the said George Benjamin Dodwell and the defendant E. J. Moss should as on the 1st day of January, 1902, assign to the plaintiffs the goodwill of the business of Dodwell, Carlill and Co.

3a.—Plaintiffs have paid to the defendant the sum of £1,000 sterling as a consideration for such assignment and the agreements on the part of the defendant in the said agreement contained.

4.—By clause 4 of the said agreement each of the said G. B. Dodwell and the defendant E. J. Moss did thereby agree with the plaintiff that they would not at any time thereafter while the plaintiff company should carry on business either solely or jointly with, or as manager or agent for, any other person or persons or company other than the plaintiff company directly or indirectly carry on or be engaged or concerned or interested in any business of a similar character to any of the businesses carried on by the plaintiff company at (among other places) Foochow or Colombo, and that he would not permit or suffer his name to be used or employed in carrying on or in connection with any such business as aforesaid, save so far as he should as a member of the plaintiff company be interested or as officer or servant or agent of the plaintiff company be employed in the business of the plaintiff company.

5.—The said E. J. Moss was up to the 8th May, 1905, the manager of the plaintiff company at Foochow but on that date he tendered his resignation which was duly accepted by the plaintiff company and since that date he has been in no way connected with the plaintiff company.

6.—Defendant E. J. Moss has committed a breach of the said clause 4 of the said agreement dated the 29th November, 1901.

7.—The following are the facts complained of:—

The defendant has permitted his name to be used in the style of Moss & Co., Ltd., which company has advertised under date Foochow, May 30th, 1905, that it established itself on the said 30th May, 1905, as general merchants, shipping, insurance and commission agents at Foochow, Hankow, Shanghai and Colombo.

Your petitioners therefore pray:—

1.—That an injunction may issue to restrain the defendant so long as the plaintiffs carry on business therefrom carrying on at Foochow or Colombo either solely or jointly with or as manager or as agent for any other person or persons or company other than the plaintiff company directly or indirectly the business of life, marine or fire insurance or merchant, or shipping or commission agent, and from being engaged concerned or interested in any of such businesses at Foochow or Colombo, and from permitting or suffering his name to be used or employed in carrying on or in connection with any such businesses at Foochow or Colombo save so far as he shall as a member of the plaintiff company be interested or as an officer or servant or agent

of the plaintiff company be employed in the business of the plaintiff company.

- 2.—Damages.
- 3.—Costs of this action.
- 4.—Such further or other relief as to this Court seems just.

RE-AMENDED ANSWER.

Mr. Ellis said that the re-amended answer to the plaintiff's amended petition read as follows:—

The re-amended answer of the above named defendant to the amended petition of the above named plaintiffs shows as follows:—

1.—Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraphs 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7 of the amended petition.

2.—As to paragraph 2 of the amended petition the defendant says that up to the 14th June, 1905, he was carrying on business as a merchant at Foochow, in the Empire of China.

3.—As to paragraph 3A of the amended petition the defendant admits that the sum of £1,000 sterling was paid to him by the plaintiffs but says that such payment was made subject to certain stipulations entered into between the plaintiffs and the defendant. Subsequently to the above payment the plaintiffs demanded the repayment by the defendant of the said sum of £1,000 sterling and he, the defendant, agreed to repay the same.

4.—As to paragraph 4 of the amended petition the defendant admits the allegations (inter alia) set forth therein.

And in further answer to the amended petition the defendant says:—

(1)—That the agreement entered into between the plaintiffs and the defendant is an agreement which imposes an unreasonable restraint of trade and is opposed to public policy and therefore void.

Your defendant therefore prays:—

(1)—That the amended petition of the plaintiffs be dismissed.

(2)—That the plaintiffs be ordered to pay to the defendant such damages as may be found payable at the trial of this action.

(3)—That the plaintiffs may be ordered to pay the costs of this action.

(4)—That the defendant may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

Mr. Ellis said the following were the particulars as to the stipulations referred to in paragraph 3 of the re-amended answer: Prior to the taking over of the business of Dodwell, Carlill & Co., on the 31st December, 1901, the directors of Dodwell & Co., Ltd., raised objections to the arrangement made by G. B. Dodwell as per his letter to the defendant dated the 20th April, 1901—copy of which is hereto annexed and marked A—and in order to prevent negotiations falling through it was arranged by telegraph and afterwards confirmed by the defendant in a letter which is in the possession of the plaintiffs that the sum of £1,000 should be paid to the defendant on the understanding that the business during the years of 1902, 1903, and 1904 should net them \$25,000 per annum otherwise the amount of £1,000 should be returned—as per letter dated the 7 February, 1905, from the said G. B. Dodwell to the defendant and as per letter dated the 13th Feb., 1905, from the defendant to the said G. B. Dodwell, copies of which are hereto annexed and marked respectively B. and C.

[Copy.]

"A"

Strictly confidential.

New York, 20th April, 1901.

My Dear Moss,—Presuming that F. E. Richard should propose or desire to retire from D. C. and Co. before the expiration of the present partnership (30th April, 1903) my suggestion is that D. C. and Co. should be wound up as quickly as possible and that D. and Co., Ltd., should continue the Foochow and Colombo branches.

I think that the Limited Co. should pay you £1,000 in cash for your share of the goodwill. I would not give anything to Richards, and I would not ask for anything for my share. You would be manager of Foochow and receive £1,000 a year as salary and to cover your living expenses, and the yearly increase would be £50. Whenever there was a vacancy in the Board (I believe we have our full quota at present but don't know definitely as I have no copy of our Articles

of Association) I would propose you for for this seat and this would entitle you to £100 yearly Director's fee. I would further promise that you should have the opportunity of holding up to £2,500 at par in the stock of D. and Co., Ltd.

I cannot at the present moment go into the details of winding up D. C. & Co. and taking over of agreements with staff, leases etc., etc., but can simply assure you that all such matters should be treated fairly and reasonably and that I would give personal attention to such matters.

Make up some telegraph cyphers as speedily as you can for use between us privately.—Yours very truly,

GEO. B. DODWELL.

E. J. Moss Esq. (cf Foochow).

Present.

"B"

[Copy]

Personal.

Foochow, 7th February, 1905.

My Dear Moss.—Your own position.—It is very painful for me to have to write regarding such a matter, but I should not be doing my duty to myself, as well as to the shareholders in D. & Co., Ltd., if I did not take this up with you, and endeavour to arrive at some arrangement which might be as satisfactory as it was possible to arrange under the present conditions.

Your indebtedness at the present moment, as far as it is known to me, stands as follows:—

You owe D. C. & Co. for profits drawn in advance of realisation ... \$ 8,000.

And there is standing at your debit on account of your half share of loss in D. C. & Co. ... 54,631.

(This amount is owing to D. & Co., Ltd., and is allowed to remain in this shape, because it is guaranteed by me).

Then, there is a sum of £1,000, say \$10,000, which is owing to D. & Co., Ltd., under the terms of your letter given to them at the time the business of D. C. & Co. was taken over by D. & Co., Ltd. ... 10,000.

So that your total indebtedness amounts to ... \$72,631.00

The only assets that I am aware of are some shares in Farnhams and the Langkat Company, against which you have an overdraft with the Chartered Bank for just about their present value. There is further your house and the land, and as regards this you have given me a letter stating that you will transfer this property to me whenever I so require.

Beyond this you have at your credit in the Saw Mills for capital, and for moneys advanced, and for half share of the balance owing to D. & Co., \$38,253.

This latter asset is of no value whatever unless it is decided that the working of the mill shall be continued.

Now I must ask you to do the following:—

The title deeds for the land on which your house stands must be handed to me, and you must give me a letter stating that these title deeds, together with the house thereon, shall be transferred to me, or to my nominee at any time that I may require.

The interest you have in the Saw Mills, supposing that the working is continued, and that the Limited Company is started, must be handed to me along with a blank transfer.

The shares you hold must be realised as soon as you can do so to cover the overdraft that you have with the Chartered Bank. I do not like the idea of your bankers advancing sums against shares in this manner, and I want to see this account closed.

It is my intention when you have done what I have stated above, to hold these securities for the benefit of your creditors and it is my hope, if you carry out your expressed promise of working hard, and endeavouring to repay your debts, to keep your house and land, and share in the Saw Mills intact, so that it can be handed back to you as soon as you are able to clear off the sums you owe.

As far as your personal expenses are concerned, I consider that at least £250 per annum must be paid to D. & Co., Ltd., towards the liquidation of the £1,000 you owe to them. I am perfectly certain in my own mind that all of the managers will insist on your acknowledging this debt, and on your redeeming it as quickly as your means will allow, and I feel that anything less than the

£250 I have indicated above as a yearly repayment will not be acceptable to them. I may mention that I have not consulted anyone of the shareholders, not even Carlill, about this matter, and that in my opinion it will need all my influence and persuasiveness to get the other directors in the Limited Company to agree to what I have proposed.

Then in addition to this repayment to Dodwell & Co., Ltd., I consider that the interest on the amount that you owe on account of your half share in Dodwell, Carlill & Co. which at 5 per cent per annum would amount to \$2,730 should be remitted by you in monthly instalments to Hongkong. It is my hope that if you carry out my wishes as indicated above, and work well and intelligently for the Limited Company, to endeavour to treat these payments of interest as payments of principal, but I am sorry to say that at the present moment, in consequence of the awful losses I have personally suffered over the working of the Saw Mills, and of D. C. & Co. I am not able to definitely make a promise to this effect.

I know that in recommending the foregoing it will mean that nearly half of the salary you receive from the Limited Company will be swallowed up in repaying your debts, but I do not think you should look upon this as a hardship, as, if you are determined to carry out what you have so plainly stated to me, viz., that you want to repay your indebtedness; and to prove that my trust in you has not been misplaced, you will not hesitate to exercise the requisite self-denial and reduce your personal expenses, so that you will be able to carry out my wishes.

Hoping that you will give me a prompt reply in confirmation of the foregoing,—Yours very truly,

GEO. B. DODWELL

E. J. Moss, Esq.,
Foochow.

"C"

[Copy.]

Personal.

Foochow, 13th February, 1905.

My Dear Dodwell,—Your personal letter to me dated the 7th inst. has had my best and closest attention. I have during your visit here, spoken freely to you regarding the unfortunate position I find myself in at the present time, and I can only confirm what I then told you, namely that every endeavour will be put forth to liquidate my liability to you. Whilst the amount due to you at the present moment is exceedingly heavy you may rest assured that no stone will be left unturned by me to liquidate these debts as soon as I possibly can.

Referring to the requests you make regarding the few assets I now have, I willingly fall in with your wishes.

The deeds for my house and land I have given into the care of Dulling during my absence, to be held to your order and I hereby confirm what I have before written you namely, that at any time you require me to give you transfer of same, or to your nominee, I am quite ready to do so.

With regard to my interest in the Saw Mills, supposing that the working is continued and that a limited company is started, I am quite ready to hand you same, along with a blank transfer.

The shares I now hold will be shortly disposed of in accordance with your wishes, and I have instructed the Bank accordingly.

With regard to the 1,000 pounds paid to me by the limited company on taking over the business from Dodwell, Carlill & Co., and in view of the stipulations not having been fulfilled during the past three years, I agree to refund to the Limited Company 250 pounds per annum of this until same is paid back, and I also agree to pay the interest on my debt now standing in their books, monthly, as has hereto been done.

In connection with the repayment of the 1,000 pounds, I would recall to your memory the remarks made by me whilst here, and I hope you will see your way to carry out my request, namely, that in the event of the next three years clearly showing, what I maintain to be the case, that the losses incurred during the past three years have been quite beyond my control, and that without them the results would have fully justified my statements, and further that should the next three years average what I

then stipulated for, this £1,000 should be returned to me.

As stated in your letter to me, the repayment of so much of my salary in the way of interest, etc., will mean that fully half of same will be absorbed, but whilst this is so, I can only tell you that I am quite prepared to suffer such inconvenience as this may cause me so long as I feel I am doing all in my power to repay my debts, looking to the future to recoup me for the sacrifices I shall require to make. Believe me, yours very truly,

E. J. Moss.

Mr. Pollock said there were one or two small matters on which he would like to address the Court. Errors had crept into the particulars supplied by his learned friend and there was also an error in the first paragraph of the plaintiffs' petition. With regard to the particulars which had been filed on behalf of the defendant it ought to have run "prior to the overtaking of the business by Dodwell, Carlill and Co." With regard to paragraph 1 of the plaintiffs' petition after the wording "merchants" it ought to run "shipping agents." He asked that the petition be amended accordingly.

Mr. McNeill said he did not think his Lordship ought to grant this application for the alteration of paragraph 1 of the plaintiffs' petition. First the plaintiffs had asked for a restraint on the defendant carrying on business in Foochow, then they asked for it to include Colombo, and now they went further and asked that he should be forbidden from carrying on the business of a shipping agent.

Mr. Pollock replied that if his Lordship would refer to paragraph 1 of the amended petition he would see that it was stated that the plaintiffs were general merchants, shipping agents, insurance, and commission agents, &c. It was stated that the plaintiffs were shipping agents and that was admitted in the re-amended answer filed on behalf of the defendant. In paragraph 7 of the amended petition it was stated that defendant had permitted his name to be used in the business of Moss and Co., as merchants, insurance agents, and general shipping agents. His learned friend could not now come into this Court and say that he did not know there was any question about shipping. Counsel submitted that it was only reasonable that he should be allowed to make paragraph 1 of the prayer correspond with paragraphs 1 and 7 of the amended petition. Mr. McNeill seemed to rely on the original petition, but that was expressed in very general and wide terms, and plaintiffs asked that defendant should not engage in the business of similar character to the plaintiffs in Foochow. Here they were asking much more specifically with regard to the business. It could not possibly be suggested seriously that such amendment made at such a time could seriously prejudice the defendant. He did not really expect that his learned friend would have opposed it seriously.

Mr. McNeill—We did not believe up to this point that the plaintiffs wished to restrain with regard to shipping.

Counsel argued the case at great length and judgment was reserved.

JUDGMENT.

Judgment was delivered as follows:—

The facts of this case as admitted or as appearing on the record are as follows:

Prior to the year 1900 the firm of Dodwell, Carlill and Co., of which the defendant was a member, was carrying on the business at Foochow and Colombo as general merchants and shipping and insurance and commission agents. By an agreement dated the 29th of November, 1900, George Benjamin Dodwell and the defendant, who at that date appear to have acquired all the interest in the firm of Dodwell, Carlill and Co., assigned to the plaintiffs the goodwill of that business at Foochow and Colombo. The defendant received £1,000 in cash for his share of the goodwill, which in certain events which happened was to be refunded, and became the manager of the new firm at a salary of £1,000 a year with a yearly increase of £50. I am unable to find that the defendant was a shareholder in the new company, but it would seem that he is not, but he has received the sum of £1,000 which is liable to be refunded, and has been manager of the new company in Foochow down to the 8th of May last, when he resigned of his own free will, and has commenced business in Foochow, either

alone or in partnership with others under the title of Moss & Co., Ltd., that business purporting, by an advertisement of the firm of Moss & Co. of the 30th of May, to be of exactly the same nature as that carried on by the plaintiffs and their predecessors Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Article 4 of the agreement of the 29th of November, 1900, is as follows:—"Each of the vendors hereby agree with the company that he will not at any time hereafter while the company shall carry on business either solely or jointly with or as manager or agent for any other person or persons or company directly or indirectly carry on or be engaged or concerned or interested in any business of a similar character to any of the businesses carried on by the company at Foochow or Colombo or London or any other place where the company has heretofore carried on or shall hereafter carry on businesses or open a branch or agency and that he will not permit or suffer his name to be used or employed in carrying on or in connection with any such business as aforesaid save so far as he shall as a member of the company be interested or as officer or servant or agent of the company be employed in the business of the company."

Under this article the plaintiffs now seek for an injunction restraining the defendant, so long as the plaintiffs carry on business there, from carrying on at Foochow or Colombo the business from which he contracted to abstain.

The defendant admits the agreement and his breach of it, but pleads that the agreement is in restraint of trade, opposed to public policy and therefore void.

The principal difficulty in this case is the construction of the agreement which may be read in two ways. According to the defendant's contention the words "at Foochow or Colombo, etc.," refer to the business carried on by the company thus leaving the area in which defendant is not to carry on business undefined or world-wide, while the plaintiffs contend that the words "at Foochow and Colombo, etc.," do not relate to the business but specify the places at which the defendant is debarred from competing with the plaintiffs. There is no evidence to show which of these constructions was in the mind of the parties at the time the contract was made, and grammatically either interpretation is possible.

The law as to contracts in restraint of trade is well settled. A clause in an agreement such as that before me will be held good or bad as it is reasonable or unreasonable; and the test of its reasonableness is whether it is necessary for the protection of the covenantee in respect of the business which is the subject matter of the contract. Taking the defendant's reading as correct, I find an agreement that he will not so long as the plaintiffs carry on their business, which may be for ever, directly or indirectly carry on or be engaged or concerned or interested in certain businesses. Now what are these businesses? To begin with the business of general merchants and shipping and insurance and commission agents, as those were the businesses carried on by the plaintiffs at Foochow, Colombo, London or elsewhere; then further the businesses carried on at any other place where the plaintiffs may hereafter carry on business. As there is nothing to restrict the business they may engage in the future this last adds to the already considerable number of businesses from which the defendant is excluded an undefined and elastic number of trades and might well be said to prevent the defendant from ever doing anything again at any place. This would, of course, be an unreasonable restriction, but it is so unreasonable that, if the clause will bear another construction, I should hesitate to adopt it as being that intended by the parties. Now the plaintiffs' construction is free from this difficulty; they say so long as we carry on business you shall not carry on or be interested in a business of the same nature at Foochow, Colombo or London, or elsewhere where we have carried on business, or elsewhere when we may carry on business. It is sufficiently wide, it may or may not be good in law, but it is not ridiculous. The plaintiffs say "if you adopt our reading of the clause we ask you to say that it is a severable contract and that we are entitled to enforce such part of it as is good." It was scarcely argued by the defendant's counsel that this is not a severable contract; in

view of the cases of *Mallan v. May*, *Price v. Green*, it clearly is divisible. The plaintiffs accordingly say "we don't ask you to decide as to the reasonableness of the whole clause but we rely on the covenant not to carry on in Foochow or Colombo business such as we carry on there, and it is for the defendant to shew that this is unreasonable." What are the facts? The defendant joins in selling the goodwill of a business and becomes the manager of the new company to whom that business is sold. It is a business of wide scope and is carried on at the two important sea ports of Foochow and Colombo, it is a business which must require a large amount of correspondence, and the defendant, who was first vendor and then manager of this business is in a position of great confidence both with his employers and their correspondents. Can the defendant show that a covenant restraining him from entering into competition with his employers at the place where they carry on business is unreasonable? On the contrary I think his conduct is calculated to seriously injure the plaintiffs in their enjoyment of what he sold to them and in their business with which he has contracted not to compete; this covenant is reasonable and is therefore enforceable.

Now we have two constructions, one offered by the defendant, which if it is not absurd, is such as to render the covenant void; another offered by the plaintiffs, which, at all events as regards that part on which I am asked to pronounce, is intelligible and such as to render the covenant enforceable. In default of more I must give it the construction by which *res magis valeat quam pereat*.

The plaintiffs are, therefore, entitled to an injunction restraining the defendant in the terms prayed, save that the words "a general merchant or of a shipping insurance or commission agent" must be substituted for the words "life marine or fire insurance or merchant shipping agent or commission agent." The defendant must also pay the costs of this proceeding and of those in connection with the proceedings for an interim injunction.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 10th October.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A QUESTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

This action, partly heard last week, in which Wong Chik Yuen alias Wong Ching Shi claimed from Leung Tsun Tung and Leung Hon Ching, partners in the Kung Sun firm of No. 10 Wilmer Street, and lately carrying on business at No. 62 Bonham Strand, the sum of \$1,000, being principal of the sum of \$1,177.06 due by the defendants to plaintiff for balance of money lent by the plaintiff to the Kung Sun firm on 27th January, 1903, again came on for hearing, plaintiff having agreed to waive the sum of \$177.06 in order to bring the action within summary jurisdiction.

Mr. R. A. Harding appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. H. G. Calthrop (instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse) represented the defendants.

Evidence in support of defendants' case was called.

The second defendant, Leung Hong Ching, stated he had never been a partner in the firm but had been employed by them as a writer or clerk.

Did you at any time lend money to the defendant firm?—Yes.

Where did you get this money from?—It was sent to me on trust (from California) to send to the country.

His Lordship—Nobody would entrust him with money. He was not a member of the firm.

Mr. Calthrop—He was a writer.

His Lordship—But nobody would entrust him with money like that. He was only a shop coolie.

Mr. Calthrop—He was a junior accountant.

His Lordship—Have the people got their money back?

Witness—Yes, partly.

His Lordship—The money was sent to you to forward to the country and you invested it in the firm?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Calthorp—Who received the interest?
Witness—I received the interest and sent it to the country.
Other evidence was called and the case was again adjourned.

Wednesday, 11th October.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

HOTEL METROPOLE LTD. v S. NEWMAN.

This action was brought by the Hotel Metropole, Limited, Shanghai, against S. Newman, of the Silver Grill, Des Voeux Road, Hongkong, to recover \$217.55 for board and lodging obtained by defendant. Mr. Hays appeared for plaintiffs and Mr. Hett for defendant.

Mr. R. F. Chester Master, solicitor, stated that the firm of Messrs. Johnston, Stokes and Master received instructions from the Hotel Metropole, Limited, Shanghai, to commence proceedings against defendant for the recovery of the amount claimed. Witness saw Mr. Newman some months ago, who said he was unable to pay then, but would do so as soon as he could. The money had not been paid.

Cross-examined—He had seen the I. O. U. produced. The money was due for board, lodging and refreshment. He could not say how much was due for board and lodging and how much for refreshment.

You don't know whether or not defendant did have board or lodgings at the Metropole Hotel or even whether that is his signature?—He admitted to me he had signed an I. O. U. for lodging.

You could not swear that he had board and lodging?—No.

His Lordship (to Mr. Hett)—They can't differentiate between board and lodging and refreshment any more than you. There is the statement by the witness that he admitted it. It won't do any harm to have judgment against you.

Mr. Hett—I think it will, and for that reason I appear here to-day. I saw his wife who tells me he is coming back shortly.

His Lordship—I can't take an I. O. U. as evidence.

Mr. Hays—If that can't be proved to be his signature the document is absolutely worthless.

His Lordship—I don't suppose I can go into the box (laughter). I happen to know his signature.

Mr. Hett—The business is still being carried on in his name. If they get judgment they would execute at once. I should like to avoid that. The man is coming back. If your Lordship would give judgment and, say, give us a fortnight.

Mr. Hays objected.

His Lordship—Judgment with costs.

Thursday, 12th October.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

CLAIM FOR RENT.

Choy Yee sued the Wai Kat Bank for \$470 for rent of the premises formerly occupied by defendants. Mr. Beavis appeared for plaintiff and Mr. O. D. Thompson for defendants.

Mr. Beavis stated that plaintiff was the owner of the premises, 101 Queen's Road, which had been let to defendants at \$235 a month. The latter had given notice to quit at the end of July but remained eight days over that time and plaintiff now sued under an act of George II. for double the rent.

His Lordship—This is the first case in the colony under that section.

Mr. Thompson—I had one about six months ago.

His Lordship—I was away then.

Mr. Beavis said he understood the defence was that they had been allowed to remain.

His Lordship—Are you going to call any evidence?

Mr. Beavis—No, my lord.

His Lordship—What is your case?

Mr. Beavis—My case is that defendants have remained over the time when they had given notice to quit. If they are prepared to deny that, my case falls to the ground. I would ask

your Lordship to nonsuit plaintiff who is out of the colony.

His Lordship—No, you have chosen your time and ought to have brought your client.

Mr. Beavis—I think it would have been fair—

His Lordship (to Mr. Thompson)—Is your client prepared to say there was an agreement?

Mr. Thompson—Yes.

Won Pik Woon, managing partner of the Wai Kat Bank, said he made an agreement with plaintiff for remaining a few days over the period of his notice to quit. Plaintiff allowed him to remain on the premises until he got another tenant. He received notice and removed at once.

His Lordship—Did you pay rent for these seven days?

Witness—I gave him no rent. He waived the rent in consideration of the fixtures which I left.

Mr. Beavis said he was quite prepared to argue on that man's evidence.

His Lordship—Well argue away then. I don't know where you are going to begin.

Mr. Beavis addressed his Lordship and asked him to give a judgment of nonsuit in that case. Defendant was not prejudiced by plaintiff's absence from the colony. Plaintiff was remaining out of the colony because there were many judgments against him, but that should not prejudice his case. He had failed for want of evidence.

His Lordship—There is no evidence whatever.

Mr. Beavis—I ask leave to bring another action.

His Lordship—No, it cannot be done. Judgment for defendant with costs.

INTERPORT SHOOTING MATCH.

The Hongkong team, in the annual interport shooting match, fired off at the King's Park Range, Kowloon, on the 13th inst. Although a moderate wind prevailed, the light was good, and the day all that could be desired. The shooting also was of a high order and eclipsed last year's total by four points. Firing took place at the 200, 500 and 600 yard ranges. Mr. M. S. Northcote, as usual, arranged the details, and, with his usual indefatigable energy, had everything in readiness at the appointed hour for starting.

The umpires were:—Hon. L. A. M. Johnston for Singapore; Captain D. Macdonald (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire) H.K.V.C., for Hongkong, as well as for Shanghai.

The team representing Hongkong was composed of Captain P. Lammert, H.K.V.C., Ar. Sergt. Simons, R. W. K., Col. Sergt. Spooner, R. W. K., Col. Sergt. Bullock, R. W. K., C.P.O. W. Manning, R.N., Mr. J. Welsh, R.N., Mr. J. Parkes, Mr. J. C. Gow, Sergt. R. Lapsley, H.K.V.C. and Sergt. J. Andrews, H.K.V.C.

The scores were as follows:—

200 YARDS.	
Bullock	5 5 5 5 5 4 4 = 53
Gow	5 4 5 5 5 4 5 = 33
Parkes	4 5 5 4 5 5 5 = 33
Welsh	5 5 5 3 5 4 5 = 32
Lapsley	4 5 5 5 4 4 5 = 32
Simons	4 4 4 5 3 5 5 = 31
Manning	3 4 5 5 4 4 5 = 30
Spooner	2 5 4 3 5 5 5 = 29
Lammert	5 4 4 4 4 3 4 = 28
Andrews	3 2 4 3 4 4 4 = 24

Total 304

500 YARDS.	
Parkes	4 4 5 5 5 5 5 = 33
Welsh	4 5 5 4 5 5 5 = 33
Simons	5 3 4 5 5 5 5 = 32
Lammert	3 4 5 5 5 5 5 = 32
Andrews	5 3 5 5 5 5 4 = 32
Spooner	5 5 4 5 3 5 5 = 32
Gow	5 4 4 5 4 5 5 = 32
Bullock	3 5 5 4 5 4 5 = 31
Lapsley	4 3 5 5 4 5 5 = 31
Manning	4 5 4 4 5 4 5 = 31

Total 319

600 YARDS.	
Welsh	5 5 4 5 5 5 5 = 34
Lammert	4 5 5 5 5 5 3 = 32
Simons	5 5 5 4 4 4 5 = 32
Lapsley	4 4 5 5 4 5 5 = 32
Gow	3 5 5 4 5 5 4 = 31
Manning	3 5 5 3 5 4 4 = 29

Bullock	4 3 4 5 4 5 4 = 29
Andrews	4 5 4 4 5 3 4 = 29
Parkes	5 2 4 4 4 5 4 = 28
Spooner	2 4 2 3 5 4 4 = 24

Total 300

AGGREGATE.

	200	500	600	Total.
Welsh	32	33	34	99
Gow	33	32	31	96
Lapsley	32	31	32	95
Simons	30	32	32	94
Parkes	33	33	28	94
Bullock	33	31	29	93
Lammert	28	32	32	92
Manning	30	31	29	90
Spooner	29	32	24	85
Andrews	24	32	29	85

304 319 300 923

The record of the Interport Rifle matches is as follows:—

1889: Shanghai, 819; Singapore, 777; Hongkong, 774.

1890: No match.

1891: Hongkong, 867; Shanghai, 830; Singapore, 741.

1892: Hongkong, 835; Shanghai, 810; Singapore, 752.

1893: Hongkong, 822; Shanghai, 802; Singapore, 768.

1894: Hongkong, 823; Singapore, 817; Shanghai, 760.

1895: Singapore, 934; Shanghai, 903; Hongkong, 879.

1896: Hongkong, 916; Shanghai, 900; Singapore, 870.

1897: Singapore, 934; Hongkong, 916; Shanghai, 860.

1898: Hongkong, 934; Singapore, 923; Shanghai, 893.

1899: Hongkong, 952; Singapore, 926; Shanghai, 887.

1900: Hongkong, 930; Singapore, 999; Shanghai, 900.

1901: Hongkong, 901; Singapore, 824; Shanghai, 841; Penang, 721.

1902: Shanghai, 926; Singapore, 893; Hongkong, 871; Penang, 871.

1903: Singapore, 927; Shanghai, 915; Hongkong, 891; Penang, 750.

1904: Singapore, 919; Hongkong, 919; Shanghai, 908; Penang did not finish on account of rain (The Singapore team having made one more point than the Hongkong team at 600 yards was declared the winner).

The result of the match is a win for Hongkong. The scores are as follows:—

Hongkong	304	319	300	923
Shanghai	300	302	287	889
Singapore	—	—	—	860

The undermentioned were selected to represent Singapore in the Interport Rifle match:—Messrs. C. M. Phillips, P. Fowlie, H. R. Baker, R. de Silva, V. A. Flower, A. E. T. Murray and C. H. Dumbell, Sergt. Turton, Hav. Ajairam and Jairam.

Reserves:—Messrs. A. Morrison and J. Flanagan.

The Shanghai selected team consisted of Messrs. T. H. U. Aldridge, W. Brand, J. Christie, C. Dewing, J. Gibson, Chas. Hill, J. Johnson, Kawanami, W. O. Lancaster, E. H. Lynch, J. McDowell, P. Mackintosh, H. E. McCann, C. Moore, C. Richards, J. E. Watson. Lieut.-Col. Watson has consented to captain the team.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The monthly competition for Captain's Cup and Pool was held on the 7th to 9th October, when the following were the best returns out of a large entry:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

† Mr. E. V. D. Parr	89	—	10	= 79
Mr. C. E. H. Beavis	88	—	2	= 81
Mr. T. C. Gray	90	—	9	= 81
Mr. W. D. Kraft	90	—	8	= 82
Mr. C. H. Gale	100	—	15	= 85

POOL.

* Mr. A. B. Rouse	95	—	18	= 77
Mr. C. M. G. Burrie	77	+	1	= 78
Mr. E. V. D. Parr	89	—	10	= 79

† Winner of Cup. * Winner of Pool.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

4th October.

THE CHEONG PING HOK TONG.

A few days ago Quen Taotai memorialized Viceroy Shum requesting His Excellency to appoint an officer to assist him in the performance of his duties as President of the Military College. The Viceroy has granted his request and Wong-Sing-Ling, an expectant prefect, has been appointed vice-president and superintendent of the above college.

AN IMPOSTER.

Lau-Chew-Yeong, an expectant taotai, twice memorialized Viceroy Shum requesting His Excellency to grant him a personal interview. In his memorials he asked Viceroy Shum to give him a position, stating that he had already been employed by Viceroy Chang-Chih-Tung, who, said he, recognised him as an able official endowed with a profound knowledge and great experience. He also stated that he was recently secretary to the Kwang-si Governor, Li-King-Hi, who praised him very much, finding that he was a learned man, and advised him to seek employment in Kwang-tung where a large field was open to him to spread his knowledge. Viceroy Shum telegraphed to Chang-Chih-Tung and Li-King-Hi to ascertain the truth of Lau's self-praising statements. Replies have now been received that this learned official is unknown to them. Lau-Chew-Yeong has consequently been arrested in a boarding-house in Wah-Ming-Lane and transferred to the Poon-yu prison pending his trial.

DEATH OF A FRENCH MISSIONARY.

Rev. Father Goutagny passed away on Saturday last at the French mission-house, in the city, after a short illness. The Rev. Father was the oldest missionary in Kwangtung, having arrived in the fifties. The burial-service was held at the Roman Catholic Cathedral on Monday at 8 a.m., at which the acting French Consul, Mr. Solange-Teyssier, and the whole French community attended. The master of ceremonies was the Rev. Father Fourquet and the officiating priests, the Rev. Father Ferrand assisted by the Rev. Fathers Milliet and Etienne. A requiem mass was also held this morning at the Roman Catholic chapel on the French concession, Shameen.

MORE ROBBERIES.

On the 3rd inst. a gang of robbers entered the Ngan Lau Kong village, near the North Gate of the city, and ransacked over twenty houses, carrying away booty to the value of over \$2,000. The robbers are still at large.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

The Honourable Maresca, member of the Italian Parliament, came up with Consul-General Volpicelli, Commander Belsito of the s.s. *Capri*, and Mr. F. P. Musso on a visit to Canton. The party arrived this morning by the s.s. *Kwong chow*, are to visit the sights of the city to-day, and will proceed later to Fat shan and Sai-nam. On their return a banquet will be offered the distinguished visitors in the celebrated flower-boats. The official calls will be made to-morrow.

On the way up the river, as the vessel was approaching Boca-Tigria, a collision with a junk occurred. The *Kwongchow* has had a few of her bow-plates indented and the ship's Joss at the bow was swept away. The Joss's wooden sword somehow or other flew back to the vessel's deck and was presented to the Honourable Maresca as a memento of the trip to Canton.

A MATCH-MAKE: IN TROUBLE.

In the vicinity of Tai-Ho-Ki, in the western suburbs, an artisan, who was living from hand to mouth, married a young widow. Shortly afterwards he disappeared without a word of warning to his wife.

Time passed and nothing was heard of him. His wife, thinking he had disappeared for good, asked an old woman and a young man who were living under the same roof as herself to find a suitable husband for her as she was willing to marry again. The match-makers soon arranged the matter and a wood-cutter was found who was willing to pay \$45 for her. The widow received \$20 and the remainder was divided between the old woman and the young man, the former receiving only five dollars as

her share. The first husband now turned up unexpectedly; and seemed much surprised to find that his wife had grown tired of waiting. The old woman, hearing of his return, and anxious to have her revenge for the meanness displayed towards her soon acquainted the husband of his wife's whereabouts and told him the whole story. The artisan found his wife in the Te-Po-Tai kai and reported the matter to the magistrate, who decided that the wife should return to her first husband. This the artisan refused, saying that as she had disgraced herself he would have her no more. The magistrate then decided that the match-money should be returned to him. Meanwhile the old woman has been locked-up and the young man ordered to be arrested. The latter, foreseeing trouble, has since disappeared.

6th October.

A SENSATIONAL SEIZURE.

I wired you yesterday evening the information that Chan-Tung-Sang's properties had been seized by the Viceroy's orders. This sensational case is the one topic of conversation in Canton just now. According to the latest information received the following are the details of the affair:—At 3.30 p.m. yesterday Viceroy Shum gave orders to the Canton prefect, the Namhoi magistrate, and a military officer to seize all properties belonging to the following persons: Chan-Tung-Sang, the late Chan-Tit-Sai and Poon-Yan-Po. The two former have been treasurers of the Hoppo of Canton and the latter chief accountant to the Treasury during Chan-Tung-Sang and the late Chan-Tit-Sai's term of office. Chan-Tit-Sai's house in Kwong Nga lane was first seized and at 4 p.m. Chan-Tung-Sang's house in Po-wah-ching-cheung Yen was seized. Later on the Poon-yu seized Poon-Yan-Po's house in Woi-Loong-sha (southern suburb). Four clerks were detailed to take an inventory of the furniture, jewellery, monies, etc., in Chan-Tung-Sang's house. The inmates being mostly women, about 60 in number, no resistance was offered. The prefect telephoned to the Viceroy asking for instructions with regard to these women and also asked for more braves as the house was too large to be adequately guarded by the 100 men that had been first despatched. While the house was being surrounded the eleventh concubine attempted to escape by the back door but was soon arrested by the braves and brought back to the house. She had a box of jewellery in her hands and fainted when she was stopped. It is rumoured that Viceroy Shum has given orders to arrest Chan-Tung-Sang's sons who happened to be out at the time of the seizure. I presume they must have bolted by this time.

Later.

It is rumoured that telegraphic instructions were sent to the Shanghai Taotai yesterday to arrest Chan-Tung-Sang who is said to be in that port and that Chau has been inveigled into the Taotai's Yamen and detained pending further instructions. Chau's situation in this matter is rather a complicated one. It is said that he is a naturalized British subject and a J. P. in Hongkong; as such he is no doubt entitled to British protection. He is held by the Chinese authorities on the other hand to be purely and simply a Chinese subject. Some curious developments may be shortly expected in connection with this sensational affair. The value of the properties seized is estimated at over 300,000 taels.

ONLY TWO LAME HORSES.

Hitherto a number of horses were kept in the different military camps around Canton, but these have gradually disappeared through old age and sickness and have not been replaced. Yesterday the commandant of the Shuntak district took his braves to the court outside the East gate for shooting practice on horseback. There were a few hundred soldiers but only two old horses borrowed for the occasion were provided for them.

AN ITALIAN MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT IN CANTON.

As stated in my previous letter we have in our midst at present the Honourable Dr. Marisca, the first member of the Italian parliament to visit this part of Asia. Our distinguished visitor has already visited India and after visiting our city will return to Hongkong via Macao. The Honourable Dr. Marisca is

studying very carefully both from an economic and commercial point of view the new condition of affairs created by the Russo-Japanese war. He recognises that historically and economically a new era is dawning after the war, and considers that there is a great future for Italy in the Far East and that if the Italian navigation companies were to run their steamers to Japan a good trade might be developed as the Japanese are on friendly terms with the Italians.

A LUCKY FALL.

A curious accident happened yesterday in the neighbourhood of the Tai-Ping gate. A workman who was standing on a bamboo scaffolding lost his balance and fell about 30 feet just as a funeral procession was passing under him. He dropped on the chair which was carrying the ancestral tablets and was none the worse for his fall.

JIU-JITSU FOR THE CHINESE.

A professor of *Jiu-Jitsu* has arrived here from Japan and is instructing the military students in the art of self-defence.

FURTHER SEIZURES.

Yesterday Fu-Ka-Tai, Chau-Tung-Sang's maternal uncle and predecessor as treasurer, was arrested by the Nam-Hoi magistrate and detained in Chau-Tung-Sang's house in the Po-Wa-Ching-Chung-Yenk. He was removed a little later to the Nam Hoi magistracy. Fu's house has been seized, together with other properties owned by him in Sco-Poo Hong and in the Fung-Yuen-Tai-Kai.

Chan-Tung-Sang's tenth concubine, who has been under medical attendance for some time, was released from custody by order of Viceroy Shum at the request of Doctor Rielagh, her medical attendant. She was not allowed to take anything with her, and was only released after a Chinese doctor had visited her to ascertain that she was really ill.

COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED.

A reward of \$10,000 was recently offered to any person giving information that would lead to the arrest of certain counterfeiters, who were known to be operating somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Wai-chow prefecture. They were unexpectedly found yesterday by a number of soldiers in a house at Po-lo, in the Wai chow District, in the course of a search for robbers who were said to be in hiding in that town. Three stamping machines and six trunks full of finished coins were discovered, together with a quantity of lead and tin. The counterfeiters made a desperate attempt to escape and a free fight ensued. They were overpowered, however, and three men were arrested. According to Chinese law these men will be beheaded.

SEIZURE OF A BANKRUPT'S PROPERTIES.

Yeong Yat Lam, who was the owner of the Ngoi-shan engineering shop, and who recently failed in business in Hongkong, performed the vanishing trick and bolted to Canton. He has since been in hiding in the Chong Hou Kai street (southern suburbs). His Hongkong creditors however, have now discovered his retreat and have also found out that Yeong owns a steam launch here (the *Foon-ti*) and also three houses, one of which is built in European style. On the 3th of September the British Consul communicated with the Poon Yu Magistrate and requested him to seize all the above properties. On the 1st inst. the Poon-yu Magistrate sent a deputy together with a number of braves to the Ngoi-shan engineering shop to take an inventory of all the articles therein, and has seized the European-style house.

THE FATSHAN THEATRE.

The Fatshan theatre was built in the 17th year of Kwang-su and originally paid a tax of \$4,800 a year to the Government. In the 18th year it was further reduced to \$2,400, and in the 20th year it was further reduced to \$1,200. The opening of the Canton-Samshui railway has increased the number of travellers to Fatshan considerably and the theatre's business has improved accordingly. The Sin-how-kuk has now decided to raise the tax, and investigations are now taking place with a view to the assessment of the amount.

PUI-KING-FUK'S RESIDENCE.

Pui-King-fuk, the ex-Namhoi magistrate, who, it will be remembered, was extradited from Macao, sentenced and banished by Viceroy

Shum, had a house in Po Shinn Fong, in the walled city. Viceroy Shum has instructed his deputy, Li, to estimate its value in order that it may be sold and the funds used by the Government. This is a week of seizures, indeed.

BRITISH CONSUL AND THE NAMHOI MAGISTRATE.

Yesterday the British Consul went with Colonel Yung to watch the trial at the Namhoi magistracy of the six prisoners who were recently extradited from Hongkong on the charge of armed robberies, etc. The prisoners blandly listened to the lengthy list of charges and had nothing to say in reply. Another prisoner Cheang Pat, alias Cheang Kwai Pau, also extradited from Hongkong was then called and, having been duly identified by two of his victims, Li-Cheong and Li-see, was charged with robbery with violence, etc. The prisoner made no reply to the accusations, bending his head all the while.

Canton, 8th October

THE CASE OF CHAU TUNG-SANG.

Yesterday afternoon Chau-Tung-Sang's concubines and daughters (20 in all), together with their male and female servants, (about 50 in number) were transferred to the Tai-Ting Yamen in the Walled City. The same day the late Chau Tit-Sai's family (8 individuals) and about 15 servants were removed from this house to the Sui-Lo-Taotai's yamen. Fu Ka-Tai was lodged with his family at the Nam-Hoi magistracy. All the women, concubines, daughters, or servant girls will be released, on security being given by substantial firms or persons, according to Chinese law, so that the officials may be free from responsibility. Otherwise people might hide them somewhere and then claim them from the mandarin or bring charges of murder, poisoning, etc., against them. All the furniture, jewellery, etc., seized in the different houses will be removed to-day to the Sin-Hau-Kuk; it is said that this, together with the household properties seized is valued at over 1,000,000 Taels. Lok Chi-Tong was arrested yesterday at Koon-Yum-Shan (the temple of the Goddess of Mercy) and his house in the Ying Lane has been seized by the Poon Yu Magistrate. Lok was Chan's brother-in-law.

The following is a translation of Chau-Tung-Sang's history published in the *On Ngu Po*:—
"Chau-Tung-shang is of very humble origin; his parents were poor and were living from hand to mouth. His maternal uncle, Fu-Kwong, was chief clerk and treasurer to the Hoppo. Chau was then quite a young man. Chau's family was assisted in those days by Fu. Fu-Kwong having saved some money retired and purchased an expectant Taotai'ship. He resigned after giving to Chau Tung-Sang his nephew the position he held in the Hoppo's yamen. Chau made use of the money in the treasury to go into all sorts of businesses and amassed a considerable fortune in a few years. He purchased official rank (an expectant Taotai'ship) and built a large house for himself in Tung-wang-kai, in the new walled city. Chau Chi-Tung, who was then Viceroy of Canton, suspecting that Chau Tung-Sang and Fu-Kwong had both made use of the monies in the Hoppo's treasury ordered an investigation into the accounts and, discovering a deficit, imposed a heavy fine on Fu-Kwong. Chau Tung-Sang then resigned and gave the position to his cousin Chau Tit-Sai. Fearing trouble, he immediately left Canton taking all his fortune to Hongkong (about 3,000,000 taels). From Hongkong he proceeded to Peking where he was befriended by a Manchu Assistant-Minister, Lun Yuen. He soon became Lun Yuen's sworn friend. Chang Chi-Tung having meanwhile been transferred to the Viceroyship of the Liang Hu provinces, Lun Yuen was appointed Hoppo of Canton and Chau Tung-Sang followed him to Canton. There they found Li Hung-chang as Viceroy, and as the latter was an intimate friend of Lun Yuen, Chau Tung-Sang was introduced to him, and by his pleasing manners soon became persona grata in the Viceroy's yamen. Chau's star was in the ascendant and all the high officials recognising his influence used to pay calls at his residence. It happened at the time that the Peking Government was in need of money and several *Ku Jen* degrees were

offered for sale at Canton for 10,000 taels each. Chau Tung-Sang who had then but one son aged six years, engaged a *Cheong-Yun* (first laureate of the Hanlin examination) as a teacher for him and purchased a *Ku Jen* degree for 10,000 taels. The Viceroy and the Hoppo both went personally to Chau's house to offer congratulations and their example was followed by a great number of officials. The people respected and feared him as the most powerful of the gentry in Canton. Shortly afterwards, Lun-Yuen's term of office having expired, Chau Tung-Sang went back to Peking with his friend and spent enormous sums of money to secure his appointment as a secretary to the Chinese Legation in London. When the Edict was published, however, Chau Tung-Sang's name did not appear and he thus found that he had been cheated out of an important sum of money. The late Tit-sai, Chau Tung-Sang's cousin, had a very good reputation; he was law abiding, very careful in his dealings and seldom made any errors. It is believed that he did not know until quite recently the exact amount of the deficit left by his predecessors."

The more recent part of Chau's history is known to everybody. He invested considerable sums of money both in Hongkong and Shanghai and lately went to Peking where he practically bought his nomination as Minister to Belgium which was so soon to be cancelled.

Viceroy Shum has been exceptionally severe towards Chau Tung-Sang, leaving aside all the suffering and humiliation the innocent members of his family have been subjected to. Peculation amongst officials in China is the rule. It is the system which is bad and the sooner reform is introduced in this important matter the better for all concerned, the governing and the governed alike.

SEIZURE OF TAM YING KONG CLUB.

The seizure of this club owned by Chau Tung-Sang together with house and a coal-godown containing about 100,000 dollars worth of Hongkong coal closes the list of the properties seized by the authorities. It is reported in connection with the above news that the lessee of the club will suffer some loss as part of the furniture seized is said to belong to him.

THE ITALIAN STEAMER "DOMINICO."

The wrecked Italian steamer *Dominico* which was recently sold by auction and knocked down to Kit-Kee of Hongkong for \$1,950 is reported to have been totally broken up by the last typhoon. The junk that was lying by with the salvage gear on board has also foundered during the storm. This means a net loss to the speculators of nearly three thousand dollars.

POSTAL MATTERS.

Hitherto parcels posted to Canton by the French mails were transhipped to Canton from Hongkong. A new departure has, however, been recently made whereby parcels are carried on to Shanghai, from whence they are remailed to their respective destinations. This extraordinary arrangement means a delay of eight to ten days as far as our port is concerned. Why on earth this illogical step has been taken no one knows! One would have expected that the Messageries Maritimes Co., which is subsidized by Government, might have taken into consideration the inconveniences which this retrograde manner of handling mailed parcels would cause to the unfortunate addressee who happens to live in this part of the world. It is hoped that the powers that be will see their way to set this important matter right, at our early date.

10th October.

SELLING PASSPORTS.

It has now come to light that a man named She-Ching-Kuk, who had a grievance against Chau-Tung-Sang, is the informer in the case. He was formerly a clerk in the Hoppo's Yamen and has recently sent a petition to the Viceroy giving details and proofs as to how the monies were misappropriated. It is said that one of the most important charges contained in the petition is that of selling passports to students, artisans and others desirous of going to the United States, and that as much as \$2,000 each had been paid for them. It is rumoured that Lee-chea, alias Li-Lum-Kwai, formerly Hoppo's deputy, is involved in this charge.

REORGANISATION OF THE NAVY.

It is said that Capt. Tyler, formerly in charge of the reclamation works here, and Coast Inspector of the I. M. C. service, has been appointed to the rank of Chinese admiral and that the task of reorganizing the navy has been entrusted to him.

THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS.

Deputy-commissioner Schmidt left Canton yesterday by the *Hankow* for a two years' holiday at Home. His many friends here gave him an enthusiastic send-off.

11th October, 1905.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Chinese in the city are complaining that the Electric Light Company turn the current on too late. At this time of the year it is dark in the houses at 6 p.m., whereas current is provided only at 6.30 p.m. Most of the lamps in the city have no meter. The Chinese pay so much per lamp per month and the lamps are kept going from the time the current is turned on to the time it is cut off in the early hours of the morning.

THE BOYCOTT.

The Boycott Committee in Canton sent a telegram yesterday to Leong Shing, Chinese Minister in Washington saying that they are informed that Congress will meet on the 12th instant to discuss the Chinese Exclusion Act. They urged him not to sign any new Treaty with the United States' Government without first submitting to the Chinese people the full details of the modifications introduced into the new treaty, and obtaining their approval; otherwise dissatisfaction is sure to follow, as the majority of Chinese in America are natives of the Kwangtung province.

CHAU TUNG-SANG'S CASE.—ANOTHER SEIZURE.

So Tai-Fut alias Chan-So, a wealthy Chinaman of Canton, purchased about two months ago a house from Chau-Tung-Sang in Canton. The price was Tls. 18,000. It appears, however, that only Tls. 10,000 were paid at the time the assignment was made. The balance was to be paid sometime before the Chinese New Year. The assignment deed was duly registered at the Nam-Hoi Magistracy and the fees (6 per cent. were paid. The Viceroy having discovered that the balance is still unpaid has authorized the Nam-Hoi Magistrate to seize the property.

It is reported here to-day that Chau-Tung-Sang's principal wife, who is in Hongkong, has sent numerous telegrams to her husband, whom she believes to be either at Shanghai or Tientsin, but has so far received no reply. Chau's whereabouts is unknown at present. His wife has, however, engaged a firm of solicitors in Hongkong to defend him in the event of his extradition being demanded by the Chinese Government.

Most of the maid-servants and also several members of Chau's family have been released. The following is a list of the members of Chau-Tung-Sang's family who are still detained in the Tai-Tang Yamen by order of Viceroy Shum:—11 servant girls, 5 concubines, 10 children whose ages range from 1 to 15 years, 9 of whom are girls. Two of the daughters are betrothed to sons of wealthy families here. Most probably their engagements will fall through, as the Chinese are very superstitious and consider that imprisonment (detention) is a bad omen for the future.

A pawnshop in Honam wherein Chau-Tung-Sang had an interest of 7,000 taels has been ordered to refund the money to the Viceroy together with the share of profits apportioned to that investment. The Poon-Yu magistrate has received orders to inspect the account books and find out the exact amounts. Seizures are being made daily and it is now reported that Quen-Tsung-Yao Taotai has been sent to Hongkong to move the Hongkong Government to attach all the properties held by Chau-Tung-Sang in that Colony. Despatches are said to have been sent a few days ago to the Governors of Hongkong and Macao with reference to the above. Chau is credited with being the owner of over 1,000,000 taels worth of property in these two colonies.

VICEROY SHUM'S BROTHER PROMOTED.

The local authorities here have received telegram from Peking saying that Viceroy Shum's fifth brother, Shun-Chun-Ming, who is

Provincial Treasurer (Fau-Tai) of Hu-peh province, has been promoted to Acting-Governor of Kwei Chau Province. There will be a large gathering of officials in the Viceroy's Yamen to-day when congratulations will be offered to Viceroy Shum on his brother's promotion.

KWAN TUNG LOTTERY FAILS.

The lottery hitherto carried on under the name of the Yuet-Tung Lottery has lost all its capital and has suspended business. The numerous lotteries that have been started in almost every important centre in China, and the competition that they have created have made the sale of tickets a very difficult matter of late. The tickets could not be readily placed and the payment of winnings to successful members has lately exceeded the amount received for tickets sold, hence the discomfiture of the concern. No tickets have been issued for the current month.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF KWANG-SI.

Li-King-Hi has, with Imperial sanction, resigned the governorship of Kwang-Si owing to ill-health, and an edict has been received by Viceroy Shum appointing Lum-Sui-Nin governor of Kwang-Si.

A PLUCKY SPORTSMAN.

A few days ago two of our local sportsmen went to Wuchow on a shooting expedition and returned here yesterday with a very creditable bag: 42 snipes, 8 pheasants, 16 partridges and the copy of a tiger's foot prints. It appears that in the jungles behind the Shao-King Hills Mr. Schoeler, who is a member of the club of "chasseurs de casquettes," of New York, was confronted with a full grown Shao-King tiger. The sportsman stood firm but the tiger immediately disappeared in the jungle. Game is said to be plentiful this year.

12th October, 1905.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

On the 10th inst. Viceroy Shum received a telegraphic message from His Excellency Viceroy Chang-Chi-Tung requesting him to send deputies to the head office of the Railway Co. on the Shameen to take over the concern. In the afternoon Viceroy Shum deputed Wong-Ping-Yan (Taotai), who proceeded to the general office accompanied by the Assistant Prefect, two Taotai's and two representatives of the gentry. When they arrived at the head office they were informed that Mr. N. Cito, the representative of the American Development Co. appointed to hand over the concern to the Chinese Government, had not yet arrived but was expected the following day, the 11th instant. Mr. Cito arrived yesterday and the formalities connected with the surrendering of the company's properties and rights were immediately performed. The following is a list of what has to be delivered to the Chinese Government:—

1. All plans showing the route of the railway.
2. All title deeds of land purchased by the railway company.
3. Account books and monies in hand.
4. All materials purchased and at present in stock.
5. All the surveying instruments.
6. All plans and documents showing the extent of the line already constructed.
7. Plant, etc., concerning the Fatshan-Sainam branch lines.
8. All account books showing the working accounts of the Fatshan-Sainam branch lines.

It was agreed that the transfer will be made to-day.

CHAU TUNG SANG'S CASE.

In a previous letter I mentioned that Chau Tung-sang's tenth concubine had been released from custody by order of Viceroy Shum at the request of her medical attendant, Doctor Razlag. I have since been informed that she has not been liberated. It appears that Dr. Razlag went to the Tai-Teng Yamen with a letter from the Viceroy authorizing her release, but somehow or other the Prefect refused to deliver her up. It is said that the prefect had previously received orders not to release any relatives of Chau-Tung-sang. They are all to remain in custody as a guarantee for Chau-Tung-Sang's personal appearance to stand his trial here and until full payment of the deficit is made. All the male and female servants have been released with the exception of Chau-Tung-Sang's chief accountant,

who will be kept until all the information required is pumped out of him. Chinese law provides powerful means to set unwilling tongues going and the Viceroy, in ordering them to be applied, is within his rights. Torture is not abolished yet, and this mediæval art of extracting confessions has no secrets for the Celestial inquisitors.

Another seizure has been made to-day at Honam. Chau-Tung-Sang owns a garden there said to be worth at least 200,000 taels, properties having greatly increased in value in that district. The garden bears the name of Yeong-Chi-Hin and is 70 cheong long and 65 cheong wide, approximately 96,000 square yards.

FIRE.

At about 10 a.m. yesterday morning a fire broke out in Wong-Sha near the Cheong Kwong Temple. Hundreds of pumps responded to the gong calls and the conflagration was prevented from extending. Two family houses were, however, burnt to the ground.

KITES AND TELEPHONES.

There is no plaything more agreeable to the Chinese kiddies than the kite. Kite flying is practised all over the Celestial empire by young and old alike. It is a very ancient pastime. The sport is at its height at this time of the year and thousands of children ascend the city walls to fly their little kites. This year, however, owing to the installation of the telephone system in Canton, thousands of kites came to an untimely end on the wires encircling the walled city. In their efforts to disentangle the little boys pull on the strings and in many places have tied up 50 or 60 wires together. The result is obvious; complaints have been received by the central telephone exchange from all quarters. In many places it was absolutely impossible to use the instruments. Four or five different voices, if not languages, being simultaneously heard. The telephone company have had to engage a special staff to keep their wires clear of kites.

13th October, 1905.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

At 10 o'clock yesterday morning, Taotai Wong Ping-Yau accompanied by several officials; Fung Sik-Ka, assistant prefect, Wen Tsung-Kao, taotai; Wong Tsan-Ting, deputy of the Canton-Hankow railway, and two representatives of the local gentry, Lai Kwai-Pui, and Leong Sui-Shan called at the Yuet-Han railway head-office on the Shameen to take over the concern from Mr. N. Cito. Of the eight items I reported yesterday only the following business was transacted, viz:—The authorities took over three cases of plans, one case of title deeds and all the surveying instruments. After going through everything very carefully, item by item, according to the inventory, the party proceeded with Mr. Cito to the offices of the International Banking Corporation to go through the working accounts and to take over the money deposited on current account in that bank. After the accounts were gone through it is said that Mr. Cito asked for remuneration for services rendered in coming to Canton to hand over the concern. Wong Ping-Yau replied that the Chinese Government had redeemed the concern from the American Development Company and that it was the latter's duty to appoint a delegate to make the transfer; that Mr. Cito's work was part of the contract, and that he was entitled to no remuneration whatever from the Chinese authorities. A hot discussion ensued between Wen Taotai and Mr. Cito in the course of which the former, picking up a box of matches which was lying on the bank manager's table, said: "Mr. Cito, suppose you were to sell me this box of matches, is it not your duty to deliver it over to me before I pay for it?" He further argued that it was the buyer's right to see that what he had bought was delivered to him as it was part of the contract. He pointed out that it was the Development Co.'s duty to send somebody to deliver everything over, item by item. The discussion continued and arguments were developed on both sides. They were finally persuaded to drop the matter for the present.

Before leaving, Wen Taotai told the manager of the bank that as the accounts had been handed over no one could draw any money out of the railway account without his authority. When the party returned to Wong Taotai's Yamen, Mr. Wen suggested that it was advis-

able to retain Mr. Joseph Lind's services, as there was no one else acquainted with the management of the Fatshan Sainam line. The suggestion was endorsed by the other members, and a letter was immediately sent to Mr. Joseph Lind informing him that he was appointed manager. This concluded the work of the day and the parties are to meet again to-morrow.

Taotai Wong Ping-Yau was appointed by Viceroy Chan Chi-Tung to take over the railway concern. He is to be the director of the Kwan-tung section of the line; and although he is over sixty years of age, no better selection could have been made. Wen Taotai, who was lately director of the railway, has been appointed as Wong Taotai's assistant.

THE BOYCOTT.

I reported yesterday that a telegram had been sent by the Canton committee to Leong Shing, Chinese Minister at Washington, requesting him to forward particulars regarding the new Chinese Labour Exclusion Act, and when Congress will discuss the matter. The following is the Minister's reply by cable:—"The terms of the new Act will be settled between the United States Minister in Peking and the Wai-Wu-Pu. However, when the Congress meets again to discuss this important question, I shall endeavour to do my utmost to secure favourable terms. Communicate this to the Amoy and Shanghai committees."

A COSTLY BED.

Amongst the furniture seized in Chau Tung-Sang's house there is said to be a very fine bed worth 30,000 taels. It is beautifully carved and inlaid with ivory and mother-of-pearl. The front is ornamented with two beautiful ivory peacocks whose eyes are set with real pearls. Diamonds are also chased here and there in the designs, and the whole is said to present a very rich and pleasing sight. It was Chau Tung-Sang's No 1 wife's bed. It is reported that Chau Tung-Sang's whereabouts are still unknown. Viceroy Yuan Shi-Kai has replied in response to a telegram from Viceroy Shum that Chau had left Peking and that no answer was received from the Shanghai Taotai concerning Chau's whereabouts.

14th October.

MR. HO TUNG.

Mr. Ho-Tung came up to Canton on the 12th instant to recruit his health. He stayed a couple of days in one of the large monasteries in the White Cloud Mountains and has since left for the Sai-chiu Hills accompanied by Mrs. Ho-Tung, a lady cousin, and a retinue of about 18 servants.

AN IMPUDENT YOUNG MAN.

A Englishman by the name of Haynes came up to Canton the day before yesterday in the company of a Hongkong grisette, by the s.s. *Kwongchow*. After signing chits on board the steamer for meals, passage, and half-a-dozen bottles of the best champagne the two pleasure-seekers landed on the Shameen and went to the Victoria Hotel where chairs were hired and a substantial tiffin ordered to be sent to the five-story Pagoda. When the party came back the young man blandly confessed to the manager of the hotel that he had but 35 cents left in his pocket to meet the bill. Haynes is looked up in the Consular Gaol.

EXECUTIONS.

Seventy criminals, who were arrested in the Shun-Tak, Sun-Wui and Heung-Shan districts, were executed yesterday at the Chui-Tau-Shan military station near Kong-moon.

NEW ORDINANCES.

The following ordinances, passed by the Legislative Council, have been assented to by H.E. the Governor on behalf of His Majesty the King:—

Ordinance No. 8 of 1905.—An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding five million seven hundred and seventeen thousand two hundred and seventy-six dollars to the Public Service of the year 1906.

Ordinance No. 9 of 1905.—An Ordinance to amend "the New Territories Land Ordinance, 1905."

Ordinance No. 10 of 1905.—An Ordinance relating to the Maintenance of Married Women deserted by their husbands.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

HONGKONG GOVERNMENT ADVANCES A LOAN.

It has recently been reported that the Colonial Government of Hongkong had agreed to lend the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung a sum of £1,100,000 towards the amount required to redeem the concession granted to the American-China Development Company for the construction of a railway from Canton to Hankow but in the absence of any official confirmation the report has been generally received with incredulity. A vernacular paper in the North has set all doubts regarding the report at rest by publishing the text of the agreement. According to a translation made by the *Shanghai Mercury* the Hongkong Government agrees with the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to raise a loan amounting to the sum of £1,100,000 sterling on behalf of the Viceroys and Governors of Hupeh, Hunan and Canton and their successors to redeem the Hankow-Canton Railway from the American syndicate, for which transaction Chang Kung-pao has the sole right, duly given by an Imperial order. The terms of the loan are for ten years counting from the 6th October, 1905. The principal and interest of the loan will be repayable in ten annual instalments and will be £110,000, and the first instalment will be paid on the 19th day of the eighth moon of the next year (1906). Should the three provinces after paying the fifth instalment think fit to pay all the principal and interest at one time, six months' previous notice is necessary. When the principal and interest are completely paid the agreements will be void from that date. The rate of interest of the loan is 4½ per cent. per annum.

The repayment will be made to the Treasury of the Hongkong Government at the dates mentioned in the annex of the agreement either by bill of exchange or in cash at the rate of exchange then prevailing. The security of the loan is the opium revenues in the three provinces of Hupeh, Hunan and Canton. The security shall not be placed as security for other loans than this unless the present loan is first redeemed. In the event of revenue not proving sufficient the Viceroy at Wuchang shall inform the British authorities of which province the revenue is not enough and some other suitable income shall be placed as security for this loan which will be placed under the control of the Maritime Customs. The bonds with the seal of the Viceroy of Hukwang and the signature of the commissioners of the Maritime Customs at Hankow will be kept at H.B.M.'s Consulate General at Hankow with the principal and interest mentioned in the same, and in case of any failure on the part of the Viceroy in paying any of the instalments at Hongkong the bonds will be produced by H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Hankow to claim the sum from either one of the three provinces, and the officials of the three provinces shall be informed of this accordingly.

The sum of £400,000 sterling will be paid on the 6th October by the Hongkong Government to Chang Kung-pao at Wuchang through the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and £700,000 will be sent to Sir Chengtung Liang Cheng, Chinese Minister to Washington, payable at New York. H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Hankow is entrusted by the Hongkong Government to see that the money is used for the purpose of the Hankow-Canton Railway. The Waiwupu shall inform the British Minister to Peking before this agreement is signed that the agreement has been duly sanctioned by an Imperial Decree. The Viceroy at Canton states that he will not object to the opium revenue of Kwangtung being made security for this loan, the stipulation of this agreement. The agreement is written both in English and Chinese and made in six copies, one to be given to the Viceroy of Hukwang Province, one to the Viceroy of Liang Kwang, one to the Governor of Hunan, one to the Governor of Hupeh, one to the Governor of Hongkong, one to the British Minister to Peking, and another to H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Hankow. The authoritative text is to be the English text in case of any dispute.

THE CANTON SENSATION.

Our Canton correspondent, writing on the 10th inst, says:—The Viceroy issued a proclamation yesterday which has since been copied and posted all over the city by the local authorities. The following is a literal translation of the proclamation:—

"This proclamation is issued to inform the people that Chau-Tung-Shang alias Chow-Wing-Yew, and the late Chau-Tit-Sai alias Chau-Kai-Chee, together with the former Hoppo's Treasurers, Fu-Yung and Fu-Kwong, and others have misappropriated and stolen Government revenues to the extent of over two million and a half taels. The former clerk of the Hoppo's registry department assisted Chau-Tung-Sang and the late Chau-Tit-Sai in falsifying the accounts of the treasury from Chau-Tit-Lai's treasurership right back to the time when Fu-Yung and Fu-Kwong were in office. He has rendered a false statement of accounts in a memorial to the government dividing the large profits between them. Chow-Tung-Shan took the largest share and misappropriated more money than the others. I have already brought the matter to the notice of the Throne and have received instructions to cashier and arrest Chau-Tung-Sang and have him tried in Court, also to make inquiries and seize all the properties belonging to Chau-Tung-Sang, Chau-Tit-Sai and others, and to dispose of same to make up the deficit caused by their dishonesty. I hereby notify all shops and firms in which Chau-Tung-Sang and others are partners and all those who have interests in which Chau-Tung-Sang has a share. Full particulars must be sent to me of all monies deposited by them or borrowed from them, and of all leasehold properties which have been purchased and are still owned in partnership with them.

"The monies must be handed over to me to make good the amounts misappropriated by them. I have already discovered that a pawnshop in Shap-pat-po in which Chau-Tung-Sang is a partner, has had the audacity to manipulate their books, tearing several leaves out, and making false entries in them. Also that a large drug-firm named Koong Yik, in Kut-cheong street, have defaced or rubbed out important items in their account books. Such attempts to defraud the Government are daring, indeed. I have given orders to the Namhoi magistrate and to the prefect to have these two shops seized. I have in consequence ordered the Prefect and the Namhoi magistrate to post this proclamation in prominent places in the city as a warning to the gentry, merchants, traders and the public in general, that if any of them are in partnership with Chau-Tung-Sang and others in any business whatsoever, or interested in any leasehold properties, the capital of which belongs to them either as managers, or as tenants of houses owned by them, or as having monies borrowed from them, all and everyone must send a detailed statement of particulars to the prefect within five days from the publishing of this proclamation. The prefect will submit them to me and await my orders. You need not be afraid to forward your petition. I tell you honestly it will not involve the petitioner. But if any of you attempt to conceal such partnerships, interest, etc., or try to falsify books of account, I will cause the shop or firm to be seized, confiscated and sold, and will give 20 per cent. of the proceeds to the informant as an inducement to give information. I am investigating the Hoppo's Treasury accounts and whatever I may say I will adhere to my words. I command you all to take notice of and abstain from disobeying this proclamation, thus avoiding repentance hereafter should it be discovered that you have disobeyed."

Various rumours are current here concerning Chau's whereabouts; it was even said yesterday that he had committed suicide in Shanghai (Tunkam); others say that Chau-Tung-Shang was detained by the Shanghai Taotai but was subsequently released at the request of the British Consul-General of that port. I have so far been unable to get confirmation of any of the above rumours.

HONGKONG Y.M.C.A. AND CLASS DISTINCTIONS.

STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee of Management of the Hongkong Young Men's Christian Association send us the following statement regarding the Class Distinctions alleged to have been set up by the European Department of the Young Men's Christian Association of Hongkong:—

"This Association has been under fire in the public press during the last few months, but has hitherto remained silent. No doubt this silence has been interpreted by many as an admission of the truth of the statements and charges therein made. Such an interpretation is incorrect. The failure to speak up to this time has been partly due to the fact that many of the attacks have borne unmistakable marks of insincerity. This has been evident not only from the many untruthful and misleading statements made (when the real truth could have been ascertained with a little pains); but also from the generally rancorous tone of the attacks in question. The chief reason for our silence was the desire not to complicate a very difficult question at a time when we were using every endeavour to arrive at a solution that would be satisfactory to all concerned, and when we, the Committee, in view of the interests and difficulties involved, were not yet in a position, nor prepared, to speak for the Association.

"The limits of this letter preclude our taking up the said untruthful and misleading statements and dealing with them one by one, nor would any useful purpose be thus served. Let us go at once to the root of the matter.

"What is the charge? Briefly, that the members of this Society, organized under the well known name given above, have deliberately decided to exclude from their membership certain classes, namely, non-Europeans and Service men.

"At the outset, instead of picturing these members as a lot of pharisaical Christians, who look with disdain on the Gentile world, let us see who they are;—these 160 men. Roughly speaking, 80 of them are 'active' members, that is, members of Christian churches; not saints, but men of flesh and blood; not men who 'pose' as Christians and say, 'I am holier than thou,' but men who acknowledge their own weaknesses and seek the help that comes in the service of the church. If these men were to be arraigned before a competent judge, no doubt each one of them would be found to have at least a modicum of class prejudice, and perhaps some of them would have a considerable amount of it (the millennium has not yet arrived), but it is safe to say that the entire 80 would be as free from it as any 80 men chosen from the local community.

"Thirteen of these 80 men compose the Committee of Management, which has the responsible direction of the Association's affairs. This Committee is selected annually by ballot by the active members.

"The other 80 men are 'associate' members, that is, they make no profession of membership in any church. It is a well-known fact among the Associations the world over that these men join the Society on account of its club features.

"Against whom, then, is the above charge aimed? Manifestly it could not be justly aimed at the associate members. Nor can the active members be held responsible, for to the Committee of Management had been delegated the power to pass upon all applications for membership. This Committee, then, accept the responsibility for whatever action has been taken.

"We did sanction temporarily the setting up of certain limitations to membership. Why? Not from any class prejudice, but with real regret that conditions seemed to demand such a course.

"The plan of organization of this Society in Hongkong is what is known as the 'metropolitan' plan, so successfully used in the West. This plan provides for separate Associations for the various sections of the community, each with its own independent management, but all bound together by one Board of Directors, on which each Association has its representatives. This plan grew out of experience in the West which has shown that more effective work could

be done by Associations formed for the different sections of the community. The success of this plan has been largely due, no doubt, to the fact that these different sections have themselves desired separate Association. It is evident now that the local conditions in Hongkong are not as propitious for the successful working out of this plan as in the West, but it was hoped at the inception of the movement here that these separate Associations would be organized before there was any unfounded suspicion that the Associations already formed were animated by any class feeling. To this end the constitution provided for Chinese, European, Army, and Navy Associations, with a clause stating that Departments would be formed as the work might demand. In addition to those named, the management had in mind the formation of Associations for the college students, and non-Europeans other than those mentioned.

For reasons that are immaterial to this discussion the time has not yet seemed ripe for the launching of these various Associations, and the managers, knowing that class distinctions are a fact in Hongkong life, saw that the original scope of this department would have to be widened, since it would be unchristian to exclude any class for whom no provision had been made. In bringing this about two things had been taken into consideration, (1) the feeling (right or wrong) on the part of the members that this department was intended exclusively for European civilians; (2) our obligation to those who stood at the back of us financially demanded that we should move with caution. Coincident with our efforts at a solution of this question we have been subjected to these scurrilous attacks, and our problem has been thus rendered even more difficult.

"At a general meeting of the members held on the 18th of September it was found that a majority were in favour of admitting soldiers and sailors. This Committee, therefore, having arrived at a probable solution of the difficulties involved, at its regular meeting on the 2nd of October, voted unanimously to admit not only service men but any persons who might apply.

"FOUR THOUSAND YEARS OF JOHN CHINAMAN."

This was the title of a lecture delivered to the members of the Y.M.C.A. at their Rooms last night by Mr. J. Dyer Ball. Dealing with their origin, Mr. Ball said we first knew about the Chinese about 4,700 years ago, but where they came from was not known, at least with certainty. The mythology of the Chinese preceded their real history, then came the legendary history. The practice of agriculture and the use of wheeled vehicles commenced about this time, during the reign of Whang Ti, whose dominions extended as far South as the Yangtze. No one had even attempted to wrest the honour of the discovery of porcelain, lacquer ware and the manufacture of silk from the Chinese, and it was the wife of Whang Ti (B.C. 2,600) who was said to have first farmed silk worms. The next period was the Golden Age, during which roads were made and vessels built for the first time. The idea of boats is said to have originated from the study of leaves floating upon water. Chopsticks also came into use during this period, when the Chinese did not exceed more than two millions; in fact the Chinese population never numbered more than 60 millions until the end of the 17th century. The Yellow River and the province of Honan were brought under cultivation in the Golden Age, but other parts of China were over-run by wild beasts. The Chinese were not the first people to inhabit that great land, but they either tried to drive out the aborigines or took them into their own body politic. At the period of the development of Honan everyone was so honest in China that nothing was stolen and all one had to do to keep a man prisoner was to draw a circle round him and he was confined. As in ancient Peru and Mexico knotted cords were used at this time instead of writing, but they advanced in due course to the knotted stick method of conveying their ideas, picture writing, and finally to writing on paper. In the next era, Feudalism prevailed and the people were constantly at war with each other. This strife was succeeded by the rise of Greater China. The

principal figure at this time was Tsinsih-huang-ti, styled the Napoleon of China. He built the great wall and constructed canals and roads, some of which exist to this day. This monarch is not beloved by the Chinese because he destroyed all the classic works, as he wished to construct the empire anew with himself as the first emperor. Buddhism was introduced about A.D. 61. The lecturer expressed the opinion that it was absurd to attempt to estimate the number of Buddhists in the world as the number in China could not be calculated, owing to the fact that many followed several forms of religion at the same time. The lecturer dwelt on the literature of China and the illustrious period when the country was enjoying a civilisation at the time that Europe was wrapt in ignorance. The leading events in the country's history were sketched by Mr. Ball, who concluded his interesting lecture by a reference to the abatement of the anti-foreign feeling.

CONCERT AT KOWLOON DOCKS.

The open-air concert given by the Kowloon Dock Theatrical Co., at the Docks on Monday night, was a distinct success, the energetic committee, with its usual foresight, seeing that nothing was lacking to give the pleasure of the evening's entertainment. The moon shed her mellow light on the scene, and in conjunction with the bright arc lights provided for the occasion, made the night as bright as day.

The stage erected on the courtyard displayed a variety of flags prettily arranged, and the Sociadade Philharmonica Orchestra took up their position thereon for the opening march "Here, There and Everywhere," for the playing of which, under the able baton of Mr. F. Gonzalez, they received well-merited applause. Mr. E.O. Murphy delighted the audience with his rendering of "Father O'Flynn." Mrs. Penfold followed with "Sing me to sleep," which was very sweetly sung, and Mr. Edwards gave great pleasure with the song of "The Gay Butterfly." Mr. Titmus' oboe solo was excellently rendered; and Mr. W. Terrill sang "Fry to Forget," though suffering from an ulcerated throat. The selection from "The Belle of New York" by the Orchestra concluded the first part of the programme, after which a ten minutes' interval was allowed for a promenade.

The second part was opened with the cake walk, "Hunky Dory," Mr. Hume following with "The Carnival," which was well sung. Mr. Wulstow, king of comics, kept his audience in roars of laughter during his singing of "It's a curious thing." In response to an encore he sang "Courting and Married," and later obliged with "The Pantomime," following this up with a variety of imitations in response to a vociferous encore. Mrs. Penfold was applauded for her song "Oh Promise me," and Mr. Pearson by the rendering of several violin selections gave proof of no mean ability on the instrument. Mr. Murphy's comic song "The Prodigal" proved an attractive item, the refrain being lustily sung by a number of the audience. In response to a recall, he sang "Micky Rooney's Band" which was equally well received. The Sociadade Philharmonica's selection "Crown of Gold" terminated a most pleasant entertainment.

HONGKONG FLOWER SHOW.

We have received from the hon. secretary, Mr. S. T. Dunn, a copy of the rules and class list for the guidance of intending exhibitors at the two days' Flower Show to be held on or about February 8th and 9th, 1906. Rule 2 states that all articles exhibited for competition must be grown by the exhibitors or have been in their possession at least six weeks before the day of exhibition, with the exception of button-holes and table decorations, and rule 7 is to the effect that the judges shall have authority to withhold the prize in any case where they are of opinion that there is not sufficient merit to justify an award, and to award special prizes for anything not mentioned in the catalogue.

The catalogue embraces 66 classes—6 plants for Peak gardens only, 7 plants from nay private gardens, 16 plants in pots (open to all), 16 cut flowers (open to all), 13 Chinese market gardens only, 1 fruit and 4 general exhibits.

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Kowloon Cricket Club took place at the Seamen's Institute last night—Dr. Swan presiding over a good attendance.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that that was the first annual meeting of the Club, and, considering its age, he thought it was in a very satisfactory condition. The balance at their credit was also satisfactory. They had done very well in coming out second in the league, although in his opinion they should have won the shield.

THE REPORT.

The following was submitted:

Report of the K.C.C. for 1904-1905. Matches played in the league 18, won 12, lost 6, drawn 0, points 36. Position in League 2nd. Dr. Freeman presented a silver cup to the Club for the best batting average in League matches. This cup was won by Mr. Lightfoot with an average of 17.75. Mr. J. Logan of the Dock Co. presented a bat to the Club for the highest score. This bat was won by Mr. S. Lightfoot with a score of 96 made against P.C.C. The Kowloon Cricket Club have to thank the following Cricket Clubs for the use of their grounds during the cricket season whilst the club was without ground, and they have also to thank the same clubs for their hospitality: Craigengower C.C., Military C.C., Civil Service C.C., Parsee C.C. and Police C.C. Our present membership is 81, but there is every probability of this being more than doubled in a few weeks now that we have been granted the "Cricket Ground" in the King's Park. Second XI. members had a poor opportunity of playing during the season. They played only three matches, all of which they lost. This season they will have both ground and many opportunities to play with other clubs. The Hon. Treasurer's report shows a credit balance of \$441.96.

The report was unanimously adopted.

APPOINTMENTS.

On the motion of Mr. Cowan seconded by Dr. Swan, supported by Mr. Logan, Mr. H. Goyne Stevens was re-elected secretary. That gentleman, in returning thanks, emphasised the necessity of maintaining the interest in the club and stated that the Colonial Secretary had informed him that the Cricket Ground in the King's Park would be allotted to them year by year on condition that they kept it in a proper state as a cricket ground.

Mr. G. H. May not being able to retain his office as treasurer, Mr. Cowan was elected to the position.

Mr. Goldring suggested that a team secretary be elected, leaving the appointment of captain to be made on the field.

The CHAIRMAN spoke in favour of a permanent captain.

It was decided to ask Dr. Swan to again accept the position of captain, and that gentleman consented.

Mr. Lightfoot was appointed sub-captain.

The meeting agreed that a captain and sub-captain for the second XI should be appointed and it was resolved that a match sub-committee be elected in addition to the other sub-committees.

HONGKONG CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Corinthian Yacht Club took place on Oct. 9th at 3, Queen's Road—Dr. Clarke, M.O.H., president, in the chair. The other members present were Messrs. J. Reidie, secretary, M. McIvor, W. H. Donald, E. M. Hazeland, J. W. Bains, F. Howell, P. Gibson, J. Hand, W. A. Crane, and Inspector Withers.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report was read as follows:—

The Committee have much pleasure in submitting to you the Club's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st September, 1905. The club which is only in its infancy started in September last and has now a membership of 71. The club deeply regrets to have to record the death of Mr. Sawson, one of its original members, who took great interest in the affairs of the club, and was a part owner of the *Ariel*. The subscription and entrance fees for the

year amounted in all to \$395, and the expenditure to \$301.76, leaving a balance of \$93.24 to the good of the club, which may be considered as satisfactory enough to a young club just started. There were seven of the one-design class racing during the season, and six cruisers took part in the races provided for that class. The *Nina* won the Club's Championship with 48 points; the *Gail* took second prize with 22. In the cruiser class the *La Cigale* took first prize (a cup presented by the Vice-Commodore of the club), and the *Elfin* took second prize given by the club. The points gained by each boat during the season are as follows:—

Nina	48 points	Ashore	2 points
Gail	22 "	Cam	1 "
Warratah ...	10 "	Ariel	1 "
Hibernia ...	5 "		

CRUISER CLASS.

La Cigale ...	20 points	Marjorie ...	4 points
Elfin	14 "	Active	2 "
Aileen	10 "	Dart	3 "

The Commodore's Cup was won by *Hibernia* and the Hume Cup by *Ashore*. The cup presented to the club by the *China Mail* was sailed for under the auspices of the Hongkong Regatta, and was won by *Warratah*. The spoons presented by Mr. Denison was won by *Gail* and *Nina* respectively. The thanks of the club are due to Mr. Hume, *China Mail* and Mr. Denison for presenting prizes to the club, and to the public who kindly came forward to swell the membership, without whose support we could not be in such a prosperous position, also to Mr. Thorne who kindly audited the accounts. The prospects of the club for the coming season are brightening, with the building of two new boats of the one-design class by Ah King, who expects to have them launched in six weeks' time.

On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Powell, the report and balance sheet was unanimously adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS.

The following office-bearers were elected by ballot: commodore, Dr. Clarke; vice-commodore Mr. E. M. Hazeland; secretary, Mr. J. W. Bains; treasurer, Mr. J. Reidie; official treasurer, Mr. W. A. Crake; committee: Messrs J. Hand, M. McIvor, Gibson, and Howell.

ALTERATION IN RULES.

Mr. Hazeland moved that rule 13 be amended as follows: "The rudder plate shall not exceed 5/16th of an inch in thickness nor two square feet in area."

Mr. DONALD seconded and the motion was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The questions of dates and prizes were left to the committee.

Mr. DONALD referred to the desirability of the erection of a club house, which, on his proposition, seconded by Mr. Howell, was referred to the committee. Other subjects mentioned by the same gentlemen—the questions of securing a launch to follow the races and of devising a system of signalling for a launch to take yachts in tow when desired—were also referred to the committee.

On the motion of Mr. DONALD it was agreed to place on record the club's appreciation of the services of Mr. J. Reidie as secretary. A vote of thanks to the commodore concluded the proceedings.

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

PROMENADE CONCERT.

Animated doubtless by philanthropic motives as well as a desire to enjoy the musical treat which had been arranged, the attendance at the Volunteer Parade Ground on October 7th was larger than usual, and the concert, promoted on this occasion by the Ladies' Benevolent Society, was eminently successful, both from an artistic and from a financial point of view. Of course, the weather was not without influence in attaining this desirable result. There was not the slightest premonition of the rain which had somewhat marred previous concerts in the same place, and the atmospheric conditions were ideal. The picturesque environment, illuminated as before, had a pretty effect in the soft moonlight, and this, together with the exquisite musical contributions from the

band, instrumentalists and vocal soloists, appealed to the aesthetic senses of the audience and evoked most cordial expressions of approval, and pleasure.

The Band of the R. W. Kent Regiment, through the kind permission of Col. Fitton and the officers, again figured largely in the programme. They opened with selections from "Iolanthe," and their brilliant execution roused the assembly to prolonged acclamation. Surgeon Lieut. Forsyth followed with a solo "The Yeoman's Daughter," which did not seem to suit his voice too well. In response to an encore he sang "The Romany Lass," which proved a better performance. A master of his instrument, Mr. G. Koenig delighted everyone with his finished performance on the cello, and complied with an insistent demand for his re-appearance. "Oh! hear the wild winds blow" was well rendered by Mr. W. M. Stewart. It was a song that suited his voice, and his subsequent contribution, when encored, was equally well chosen and sung. The tuneful soprano voice and perfect enunciation heard won Mrs. J. Badelay sang "The Slave Song" won the hearts of all, and to the rapturous encore which greeted its conclusion she replied with a charming little solo, sweetly rendered, "The Garden of Love." Three inspiring dances from "Nell Gwynn" by the band closed the first part of the programme. The band was responsible for two other exquisite selections in introducing the second part. Then came Mr. C. H. Grace, whose baritone voice was heard to advantage in "Son of Mine." One has no fault to find with the singer or the song, but surely it is a misnomer to describe it as a "cradle song." It was rather vigorous in expression and surely could not have been intended to have any soporific effect. Mr. Grace was deservedly recalled, but even his second effort did not satisfy the audience and he had to appear a third time. "When you return" gave Mrs. David Wood an opportunity of displaying a singularly mellow contralto voice and, singing with perfect ease and expression, her contribution ranked as one of the best of the evening. The usual encore was demanded. To this she responded with that beautiful but inexpressibly pathetic little song written by Burns, "Ae fond kiss and then we sever." The singer was in perfect sympathy with her song, and its depth of feeling was presented in a most effective rendering. Mr. F. Jokl sustained his reputation with another brilliant performance, his artistic playing of "Legende" appealing so strongly to his auditors that he had to return and give another exhibition. Mr. A. F. Walstow supplied the funny element in an unexceptionable manner and he also had to appear a second time. "The Duchess of Dantsic" by the band concluded the programme. Mr. Grimbly proved an efficient accompanist.

Sir Henry Berkeley, ascending the stage before the close, spoke on behalf of the Ladies' Committee, thanking all present for their patronage and encouragement to the committee who would be enabled as the result of that concert to better carry on the good work of relieving distress and alleviating the sufferings of the poor who by the stern law of nature must be here with us in Hongkong as elsewhere. The ladies and gentlemen present would be glad to know, and the Ladies' Committee would be gratified to learn that, as the result of that concert, the funds of the society would be increased by something like \$1,100 (applause). He ventured to say that that was a result creditable to any community. The ladies of the society desired him to express their appreciation of the attendance of the ladies and gentlemen there and especially to those who had contributed to the programme. In conclusion he said he thought he was expressing the feelings of all present in saying they had a most enjoyable evening, and he called for three hearty cheers for all the performers, and for those who had assisted in other ways.

These were given, and the company dispersed after the National Anthem.

According to a Tokyo telegram appearing in the *N. C. Daily News*, plague has broken out in the neighbourhood of Lake Dalainor (or Kuluu), on the western borders of Manchuria. The Trans-Baikal provinces are declared infected.

STREET STABBING AFFAIRS.

ONE FATALITY.

Two stabbing incidents are reported as having occurred in town during Tuesday. The first occurred at a house in Third Street, West point, a Chinese Christian establishment in charge of Wong Kam. It appears that Wong objected to the introduction of women to the premises, and would not allow another Chinaman, Kuang Fat, to enter with one. The second man, after an altercation, stabbed Wong in the right side with a knife and the sufferer had to be removed to the Government Civil Hospital. His assailant has escaped.

The second affray occurred in Des Vœux Road shortly after noon. As a Chinese boy from the Hongkong Hotel was walking along near the Harbour office, he was attacked by another native who ran a knife in his side and quickly decamped. The "boy" was taken to the Tung Wa Hospital, but refused to say who his assailant was, or why he attacked him.

He succumbed to his injuries at 6 o'clock last night.

THE CANTON-MACAO RAILWAY PROJECT.

CHINESE CAPITALISTS RESENTING PORTUGUESE DELAY.

About a year ago Imperial sanction was given to a project for the construction of a line of railway from Canton to Macao, the capital to be subscribed in equal proportions by Portuguese and Chinese subjects. According to the *Chung Ngai San Po*, the Chinese director of the railway (Lam Tak Yuen) has succeeded in raising the Chinese portion of the capital (two million dollars) and recently petitioned the Director-General of Railways (Sheung Kung Po) to cancel the agreement made with the Portuguese Government on account of "the unnecessary delay on the part of the Portuguese in raising their moiety of the share capital." The memorial further asked that the right to construct the line should be reserved to Chinese subjects only, and assured the Director-General that there would be no difficulty in raising among Chinese capitalists the entire amount required for the construction of the line. The Director-General, however, has replied that it is too soon yet to consider a request to cancel the agreement and he advised his petitioner to wait a while. Lam Tak-Yuen has recently traversed the proposed route of the railway.

REGULATIONS FOR BLAKE GARDEN.

The following regulations for the maintenance of good order and the preservation of property in Blake Garden have been made by the Governor-in-Council:—

- 1.—No person shall pick or handle flowers or plants or do any harm to plant or tree.
- 2.—No person carrying a load shall enter the Garden.
- 3.—No public or private vehicle shall be allowed in the Garden except sedan chairs for the use of invalids, permits for which shall have been first obtained from the Superintendent of the Gardens, and perambulators.
- 4.—No person shall put his feet on the seats, nor lie upon any seat.
- 5.—No person shall cut or injure any fence or other property of the Government in the Garden.
- 6.—No kites shall be flown in or from the Garden.
- 7.—All persons using the Garden shall conduct themselves in a quiet and orderly manner.
- 8.—The Superintendent may close the Garden or any portion thereof and grant admission thereto by ticket or otherwise on such occasion so may be approved by the Governor.

The "At Home" held by His Excellency the Governor yesterday at Government House was numerously attended. Tea was provided on the lawn and the Band of the Royal West Kents discoursed an excellent programme of music.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 4th October.—Business reported since the 27th ulto., is as under:—

	1905.	1904.
Settlements	1-Chests. 2,130	1-Chests. nil.
S'ments to S'hai (Nat. a/c)	8,304	nil.
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
1-Chests		

Khemuns 273 at Tls. 13.00 per picul.
Oonfaas 18.57 at Tls. 12.50 13.50
The following are statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 5th October, 1904:—

	1905.	1904.
HANKOW TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements...	438,662	583,841
S'ments to S'hai (Nat. a/c)	13,252	34,604
Stock	44,052	3,000

Arrivals ... 495,966 621,415

	1905.	1904.
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements...	177,880	195,538
S'ments to S'hai (Nat. a/c)	9,779	18,037
Stock	nil.	nil.

Arrivals ... 187,659 213,575

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's Circular, dated Shanghai, 29th September, 1905, states:—The Home markets are firm. Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 12-4. Raw Silk.—There is very little business to record, prices do not give way on account of the comparatively small stocks here and the high values in the up-country markets. Kashings have been in good demand. Hand Filatures.—Dealers are asking prices at which buyers do not care to operate. Yellow Silk.—Sales have been on a moderate scale during the week. Steam Filatures.—We have not heard of any business for America; and only two or three small parcels have been taken for Lyons Waste Silk.—Settlements have been on a large scale since our last circular.

HEMP.

Messrs. Warner, Baines & Co. of Manila, in their latest circular, dated September 30th, give the hemp receipts since 1st January as follows:—

	1905.	1904.	1903.
At Manila	528,090	575,177	611,032 bales.
Cebu & Iloilo	148,337	99,039	122,994 "
Total	676,427	674,216	734,026 "

The market has varied over the fortnight at from P. C. 20.50 at P. C. 21, basis of fair current, closing steady at the latter figure, or say at exchange 2/0½=£39. 15s. Od., f. o. b. Arrivals of Leyte have found buyers at P. C. 25.75 basis of good current, or say at exchange 2/0½=£47. 17s. 6d., f. o. b. The very severe typhoon which on the 25th and 26th September passed almost directly over the principal hemp districts, the centre crossing the Islands between north of Samar and south of Albay, has done, according to all accounts so far received, an immensity of damage to the plantations. Details are still wanting, but even should the blown down trees increase somewhat the early receipts, as seems probable, the quantity overthrown will be far too numerous to more than partly clean before they become rotten, and the ultimate result points to a still diminished production for some time to come.

Exports since 1st January, have been:—

	1905.	1904.	1903.
To Atlantic United States	281,772	235,417	347,860 bales.
United Kingdom	305,241	389,955	338,027 "
California and Oregon	24,479	24,373	40,398 "
Australia	9,898	12,326	11,750 "
Other parts and local consumption	72,507	72,486	27,318 "

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 13th October.

Quotations are:— Allow'ce net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$1100	to	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1180	to	do.
Malwa Older	\$1200	to	do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1260	to	do.
Persian fine quality	\$1120	to	do.
Persian extra fine	\$1200	to	do.
Patna New	\$1030	to	per chest.
Patna Old	\$1050	to	do.
Benares New	\$1000	to	do.
Benares Old	\$1005	to	do.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 5th October, 1905, states:—The interval since our last circular has again been extremely quiet and we have been told by nearly all the importers there is practically nothing doing in spot cargo. There have, however, again been several transactions made in American goods for shipment next year, and while we have been unable to obtain full particulars of the business the following sales may be of interest to our readers. In P. M. C. Drills sales of several thousand bales have been made for shipment during March, April, and May next at prices ranging from 12-5d. to 12-7d. and we think the difference in price may be accounted for by whether the shipments are made via the Suez Canal or across the Pacific. We have also been told that a well known Southern mill drill has been sold at 11-7½ for shipment during June, July and August next year, and that 2½-yard sheetings from the same producing centre were sold at 10-11½ for August shipment. Clearances locally for these goods during the week have been satisfactory although not so large as the previous week. In English a few small lots have changed hands, here and there, and demand is very far from being general, and we fancy the sales reported are chiefly from second hand. Deliveries could very easily be improved on. The outports remain very quiet and we do not hear of any encouraging reports from any of the consuming districts. Latest telegrams from Manchester reported the market quiet but firm while the exports for the fortnight ending 29th ulto. were 19,000,000 yards which with the 9,000,000 yards shipped during the previous fortnight makes the total for the month 28,000,000 yards. The Liverpool market is rather quiet, Mid Orleans is now quoted 5.61d. and Egyptian 7½d. Our Indian yarn market has been very quiet and sales only amount to 640 bales which have been divided between Newchwang and the River Ports. The following extract from the "Peking and Tientsin Times" may be interesting as it shows that a period of prosperity has already opened in Manchuria. "I have just returned from Mukden, where all was quiet and the country very flourishing. The harvests in Manchuria are expected to be the best in the memory of the oldest people, despite the fact that labour has been and is very scarce. The country has never been so full of ready money. In by-gone years trade was all done, or nearly so, by promissory notes; but owing to two huge armies, both spending money lavishly for local products, money is plentiful everywhere. The very battlefields south of Mukden are rich with corn. Once peace is assured and communication open, there will be an unprecedented demand for clothing and also luxuries hardly indulged in past years. The natives seem to be hardend as regards the land fighting, and in the actual war zone they seem to be going on as per usual, and but little land has remained uncultivated. Many towns have still more than their nominal population, as many village women and children prefer to remain in the larger centres. From many enquiries one learns that on the whole both armies have behaved as well as could be expected to the natives. That there has been local suffering, and this sometimes acute, goes without saying, but the people quickly recuperate in this naturally rich country." Grey Shirtings.—There has been scarcely any business done during the week and the only transaction reported is a small sale of 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Horse and Man Chop at Tls. 2.20. Prices at the auctions for the lighter qualities had a tendency towards lower rates, while those for the heavier weights, although of an in and out nature, may be called steady. T-Cloths.—Business has been confined to the auctions where prices for 7 lbs. are lower and those for 8 lbs. rather better. White Shirtings.—The only business we have heard of is a sale of 2,000 pieces 64 reed blue two stars at Tls. 3.45. At the auctions prices all went in favour of the buyer. Drills and Shirtings.—There has again been some enquiry for English goods and a few sales have been made of Drills, viz: 3,000 pieces Dragon chop at Tls. 4.85 and 1,500 pieces Marin chop at Tls. 4.75. In Dutch makes 1,500 pieces have been sold at Tls. 3.77½ while in English sheetings 1,000 pieces Blue Cock chop have changed hands at Tls. 3.85. In American Drills sales of about 50,000 pieces appear in the book, the principal of which are 5,000 pieces Dwight B at Tls. 4.20, 10,000 pieces Buffalo A at Tls. 4.35, 10,000 pieces Orr A at Tls. 4.67½ and 10,000 pieces Pelzer A at Tls. 4.75. Besides the above several lines have been sold for shipment during the Spring and Summer months of next year, but it is very difficult to obtain any definite particulars regarding the quantity and prices. As far as we know there has been nothing done in American

sheetings in spot cargo, but we hear several lines have been placed for arrival with the same shipment as above. Fancy Goods.—Several small lines have been placed from stock but they are for the most part of a retail nature, while clearances, we are told, could easily be much better. With a few exceptions prices at auction were much the same as the previous were.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 16th October.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 90.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	140.00 to 160.00
" 22 to 24, ...	160.00 to 165.00
" 28 to 32, ...	167.50 to 175.00
" 38 to 42, ...	180.00 to 190.00

Reported sales 5,500 bales.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.25
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
8.4 lbs.	3.00 to 4.00
9 to 10 lbs.	4.10 to 5.30
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.80 to 3.00
58 to 60 "	3.10 to 3.60
64 to 66 "	3.80 to 5.40
Fine	6.10 to 8.00
Book-folds	5.30 to 8.10
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.00
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	2.20 to 2.30
7lbs. (32 "), "	2.70 to 3.00
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.25 to 2.70
7lbs. (32 "), "	2.90 to 3.20
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.25 to 3.80
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs.	5.10 to 8.00

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs. } 1.80 to 3.85

	per yard
Brocades—Dyed	0.12½ to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted	0.09 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22½ to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in.	0.22½ to 0.26

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HONGKONG, 14th October.—Messrs. Sorabjee Dhunjeebhoy Setna furnishes the following quotations:—

Apricot	\$4 to \$26
Borax	\$14 " \$17
Cassia	\$14 " \$19.75
Cloves	\$20 " \$36
Camphor	\$130 " —
Caw Bezoar	\$120 " \$155
Fennel Seed	\$5 " \$6
Galangal	\$2 " \$5
Grapes	\$15 " \$20
Kismis	\$18 " \$23
Glue	\$24 " \$27
Olibanum	\$4 " \$17
Oil Sandalwood	\$200 " \$340
" Rosa	\$59 " \$150
" Cassia	\$154 " —
Kaisins	\$12 " \$14
Saura Leaves	\$2 " \$9
Sandalwood	\$24 " 423
Saltpetre	\$11.50 to \$12.50

HANKOW, Oct. 4th, 1905:—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 34.50
Do. Seconds	" 30.50
Buffalo hides, Best Selected	" 17.50
Goatskins, Untanned, chiefly white color	" (nom.)
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	" 8.00
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 12.50
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 11.30
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" 13.00
Jute	" 4.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 9.30
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Machong	" 9.10
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" 8.50
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 11.80
Animal Tallow	" 11.50
Gallnuts, Usual shape	" 17.50
Do. Plum do.	" 18.50
Tobacco, Tingchow	" 8.10
Do. Wongkong	" 10.50
Black Bristles	" 98.00
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	" (nom.)
" " " Wild Duck	" (")
Turneric	" 3.50
Sesamum Seed	" 3.85
Sesamum Seed Oil	" 8.00
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	" (nom.)
Wood Oil	" 8.90
Tea Oil	" 10.50

Per steamer *Antenor*, sailed on 8th Oct. For Port Said:—60 rolls Matting. For Beyrouth:—30 rolls matting. For Constantinople:—6 packages sundries. For Odessa:—100 bales Galangal. For London or Continent:—189 bales bamboo scraps, 40 cases bristles, 75 bales canes, 50 boxes cassia. For London:—197 half-chests tea, 372 boxes tea, 500 bales cassia, 189 rolls matting, 100 bales split bamboos, 3 cases bristles, 50 cases preserves, 3,673 cases preserves, 42 cases shells &c., 102 cases soy, 137 cases glassware, &c., 150 bales feathers, 6 bales hammocks, 147 bales canes, 37 packages effects and sundries. For London or Glasgow:—50 cases ginger. For London or Hamburg:—57 bales canes, 20 cases bristles. For Leith:—125 cases preserves. For Glasgow:—100 cases preserves. For Dundee:—50 cases preserves. For London or Continent:—149 bales canes. For Amsterdam:—45 cases preserves, 196 cases cassia, 3 cases camphorwood boxes. For Antwerp:—100 bales split bamboos, 100 bales feathers, 80 rolls matting.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th October, 1905.—Business has been a little more brisk, or rather a little less dull, during the week, but the chief stocks continue neglected, and the business transacted has been chiefly confined to the smaller investment stocks. Rates have ruled steady, but with an inclination to weakness, and there are no features of any special interest to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have declined to £93 in London and the weakness has been reflected in our market, shares being on offer at time of closing at \$915 and possibly at a slightly lower rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions remain unchanged and without business, buyers at \$780 still ruling the market; at \$785, however, a few shares are available. Cantons have been placed at \$340, \$342½ and \$345. The market closing with buyers at the lower rate. China Traders, as anticipated in our last circular, have further improved, and \$81 failing to bring out shares the rate gradually rose to \$83 without business. At this latter rate, however, a fair number of shares changed hands, and at the close, the demand exceeding the supply, shares are enquired for at \$83½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been negotiated in small lots at \$34 closing with sellers. Chinas have been placed at the improved rates of \$88½ and \$89 in small lots.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have declined to \$26½ with small sales. Indos have found limited buyers at \$93, closing steady at that rate. The latest Shanghai quotation is Tls. 67. A few China-Manilas have changed hands at \$18, and more are wanted at the rate. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—The market is totally neglected and we have no business to report.

MINING.—No business or changes to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue weak, and have been on offer all the week at \$184 without inducing buyers to come forward. At time of closing sellers still rule the market. Kowloon Wharves have been in demand and fair sales have been effected during the week at \$106 and \$107 and later at \$107½, the market closing firm with buyers at \$107½ and apparently with no shares obtainable. Farnhams have ruled steady between Tls. 145 and Tls. 144, closing quiet at the latter rate.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been placed during the week in small unimportant lots at \$1.6, closing steady with buyers at that rate. Hotels are enquired for both for cash and forward at \$147 and equivalents, but shares are scarce and the small demand meets with no response. West Points are on offer at \$55 with no business to report. A few Kowloon Lands could be placed at \$40, and Hunphreys' Estates at \$12½ and \$12¾. No shares in either stock however are available to meet the demand.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have been taken off the market at Tls. 55, and close with buyers at Tls. 57 in Shanghai. Hongkongs remain quiet and unchanged at \$144. Other rates under this heading are taken from Shanghai quotations.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have been the medium of a fair business at \$9 and \$9.10. Green Islands have found fairly large buyers at \$28, \$28½, \$29 and \$29½, and shares have been placed for November at \$29½. Steam Waterboats, Watsons, Electrics and Dairy Farms, have all changed hands in fair lots at quotations.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

QUOTATIONS.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai.	\$125	\$915, sellers London, £93.
National B. of China	£5	\$38, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, buyers
China-Borneo Co.		\$12
China Light & P. Co.		\$10, sellers
China Provident		\$10
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 57, buyers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 44
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 61
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 250, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$17½
Docks & Wharves—		
Farnham, B. & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 144, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$107½, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$184, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$17
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 187½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$27, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$29½, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15½, buyers
Do. New	\$5	\$9½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$215, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$147, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$235, sellers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$50	\$152
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$14, sales & sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$345, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$89
China Traders	\$25	\$83½, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 82, buyers
Union	\$100	\$780, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$172½
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$126, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$12½, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$40, buyers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 122, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raubs	18/10	\$3½
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$7, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$22½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$15, buyers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$18, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$32, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$26½, sellers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	\$93, buyers
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	21s.
Do. Preference	\$10	\$28, 10s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$33, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$25, sellers
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$50	\$50
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$20, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$8, sellers
Do. New	\$3	\$7½, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$36
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$11½, sales & sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$7, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14½, sales & sell.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9
Do. Founders	\$10	\$160

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending the 5th October, 1905, states:—The principal feature during the week has been the heavy fluctuations in the price of Langkats, particulars of which please see below. In other stocks business has been quiet. The T.T. rate on London to-day is 2/8½. Banks.—No business reported. H. and S. Banks are quoted in the South at \$902.50 sales. Marine and Fire Ins.—

The only business reported is China Traders at \$79 sold to Hongkong. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas have remained fairly steady with transactions at Tls. 71 for October, Tls. 72 for November, Tls. 73 for December, closing with sales at Tls. 72 for December. Shanghai Tugs ordinary shares have been placed at Tls. 58. Mining.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 10, at which rate shares are wanted. Weihaiwei Golds at \$9. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyds. The market opened on the 28th ult., with sales for cash at Tls. 144 and 144.50. For October at Tls. 146 and 145, Tls. 149 for December. On the 29th Tls. 146 for October and Tls. 149 for December. On the 2nd October at Tls. 147½ delivery this month, Tls. 149 for November and Tls. 151 and 152 for December. On the 3rd Tls. 149 for October. The market closes weak with sales at Tls. 147 for this month's delivery. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. Little business has been reported, remaining steady at Tls. 187½. Transactions were reported at Tls. 190 cash and December and later Tls. 192½ for December. Yangtze W. and G. have been placed at Tls. 190. Sugars.—No business reported. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 122. Industrial.—The only business reported in Cotton stocks is in International's at Tls. 45. Maatschappij, etc. in Langkats. The market opened on the 28th ult. with sales for cash at Tls. 240 and Tls. 237½. For October Tls. 245/47½/40 and Tls. 42½. For December Tls. 245/50/52½. On the 29th Tls. 247½ and 250 for October, Tls. 255 and 252½ for December. On the 2nd inst., for cash at Tls. 260 and 262½, for October Tls. 260/62½ and Tls. 55. For December Tls. 267½/62½/60/30 and Tls. 70. On the 3rd for cash Tls. 250, for October Tls. 255½ and 51. For December Tls. 265/68/67½ and Tls. 60. On the 4th Tls. 247½ cash, Tls. 250 for October, Tls. 257½, 259 and Tls. 260 for December. The market closes with Tls. 247½ for October and Tls. 257½ for December. Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 68. Stores and Hotels.—Astor House have been placed at \$28. Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 18½. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been placed at Tls. 57. Loans and Debitures.—Shanghai Municipal 5½ 2 per cent. have been placed at Tls. 95.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 16th October.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	244½
Credits 4 months' sight	249
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	199
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight	48½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145
Bank, on demand	145½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145
Bank, on demand	145½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	95½
ON MANILA.—On demand	95½
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	9 p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	116½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1 p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	Par.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	61½
SEVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10.20
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$53.60
BAR SILVER, per oz.	28½

FREIGHTS.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 40/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 41/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) 32/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland):—Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb. gross plus river freight. To Shanghai.—Tea and General Cargo, Tals 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—

ARRIVALS.

- 5, Glenogle, British str., from London.
 5, Nubia, British str., from Yokohama.
 5, Senegambia, German str., from Hamburg.
 6, Alcinous, British str., from Shanghai.
 6, Daigi Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 6, Empire, British str., from Sydney.
 6, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Pakhoi.
 6, Silesia, German str., from Shanghai.
 6, Suevia, German str., from Hankow.
 6, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 6, Tsintan, German str., from Bangkok.
 6, Zibenghla, British str., from Singapore.
 7, Albenga, German str., from Kelung.
 7, Barotse, British str., from Shanghai.
 7, K. Elisabeth, Austrian cr., from Shanghai.
 7, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 7, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Hoihow.
 7, Sridharanag, Japanese yacht, from Kobe.
 8, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 8, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 8, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
 8, Bantu, British str., from Singapore.
 9, Bayern, German str., from Yokohama.
 9, Benalder, British str., from London.
 9, Beuleuch, British str., from Shanghai.
 9, China, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 9, Hue, French str., from Kwangchauwan.
 9, Paoting, British str., from Manila.
 9, Prinzess Alice, Ger. str., from Bremen.
 9, Quinta, German str., from Bangkok.
 9, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 9, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
 9, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 9, Yehow, British str., from Shanghai.
 9, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 10, Chowtai, German str., from Swatow.
 10, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 10, Eiger, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 10, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 10, Katanga, British str., from Kuchinotzu.
 10, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
 11, Brand, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
 11, Calchas, British str., from Liverpool.
 11, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 11, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from C'wantao.
 11, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.
 11, Linan, British str., from Canton.
 11, Louqsor, French str., from Shanghai.
 11, Zweena, British str., from Samarang.
 12, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 12, Anamba, Danish str., from Bangkok.
 12, Hainan, French str., from Kougmoon.
 12, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 12, Monadnock, U.S. monitor, from Manila.
 12, Onsang, British str., from Probolinggo.
 12, Proteus, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
 12, Rhaetia, German str., from Hamburg.
 12, Satsuma, British str., from Amoy.
 12, Stettin, British str., from Singapore.
 12, Urtan, British str., from Rangoon.
 12, Yehow, British str., from Canton.
 13, Ailsa Craig, British str., from Kara'su.
 13, Glenlechy, British str., from London.
 13, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
 13, Rosneath, British str., from Rajang.
 13, Tean, British str., from Manila.
 13, Triumph, German str., from Shanghai.
 13, Yunnan, British str., from Manila.
 14, Agamemnon, British str., from Shanghai.
 14, Aldga'e, British str., from Kuchinotzu.
 14, Cheangchow, British str., from Moji.
 14, Chingtu, British str., from Yokohama.
 14, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 14, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 14, Heim, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 14, Loyal, German str., from Hongay.
 14, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.
 14, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 14, Poona, British str., from London.
 14, Wingsang, British str., from Wuhu.
- October— DEPARTURES.
 5, Foehing, British str., for Samarang.
 6, Choyang, British str., for Canton.
 6, Eiger, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 6, Evandale, British str., for Yokohama.
 6, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
 6, Loonsang, British str., for Manila.
 6, Losok, German str., for Bangkok.
 6, Mongolia, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 6, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
 6, Wosang, British str., for Tientsin.
 7, Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.
 7, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 7, Loyal, German str., for Hongay.

- 7, Lucia Vittoria, Ital. str., for K'chauwan.
 7, Nubia, British str., for Europe.
 7, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
 7, Tjimabi, Dutch str., for Java.
 7, Waihora, British str., for Amoy.
 7, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 8, Alcinous, British str., for London.
 8, Barotse, British str., for London.
 8, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.
 8, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 8, Dundas, British str., for Moji.
 8, Empire, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Ithaka, German str., for Shanghai.
 8, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 8, Senegambia, German str., for Yokohama.
 8, Silesia, German str., for Hamburg.
 8, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
 9, Arcadia, German str., for Tsintan.
 9, Taiyuan, British str., for Yokohama.
 10, Albenga, German str., for New York.
 10, Bantu, British str., for Yokohama.
 10, Benalder, British str., for Nagasaki.
 10, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 10, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 10, Prinzess Alice, German str., for Shanghai.
 10, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Hoihow.
 10, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 10, Suevia, German str., for Hamburg.
 10, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 10, Zibenghla, British str., for Amoy.
 11, Bayern, German str., for Europe.
 11, Beuleuch, British str., for Kolsichang.
 11, Brand, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 11, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., for Canton.
 11, Hue, French str., for Kwangchauwan.
 11, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 11, K. Elisabeth, Austrian cr., for Singapore.
 11, Kansu, British str., for Tientsin.
 11, Louqsor, French str., for Saigon.
 11, Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 11, Tsintan, German str., for Singapore.
 12, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 12, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 12, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Combermere, British ship, for Australia.
 12, Eiger, Norwegian str., for Chinkiang.
 12, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 12, Linan, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Monadnock, U.S. monitor, for Canton.
 13, Blackheath, British str., for Mororan.
 13, Calchas, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
 13, Hizsang, British str., for Samarang.
 13, Katanga, British str., for Kuchinotzu.
 13, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 13, Urtan, British str., for Yokohama.
 13, Yehow, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 14, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
 14, Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 14, Dorris, German str., for Kobe.
 14, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 14, Rhaetia, German str., for Shanghai.
 14, Satsuma, British str., for Singapore.
 14, Sridharanag, Japanese yacht, for Hoihow.
 14, Victoria, Chinese str., for Newchwang.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per Nubia, from Shanghai for Hongkong.
 Mr. Mrs. and Miss Lay and child, Miss Craig,
 Messrs. H. F. Beyley, C. H. Faltoon, A. Forbes,
 Mr. and Mrs. Sumner, Messrs. F. Jones, Ch.
 Nouchen, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, and Mr. W. V.
 Robinson.
 Per Taming, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. G.
 N. Lamb, Capt. Geo. J. Lyon, Mrs. S. Bloom
 and Mr. Momoto.
 Per Meefoo, from Shanghai, Miss Remedios.
 Per Empire, from Sydney, &c., Mr. and Mrs.
 L. Hoffnug and maid, Mr. and Mrs. A. M.
 Oxsley, Mrs. S. Bloom, Mrs. J. M. Smith, Mrs.
 S. E. Spiller, Miss M. Thatcher, Miss Searl,
 Miss Bachlor, Miss B. Harris, Misses See (2),
 Miss Douglass, Miss Lyell, Miss Meeks, Hon.
 Sir John See, Rt. Hon. Sir G. Turner and Lady
 Turner, Dr. C. P. Bagg, Capt. A. A. A.
 Oliveira, Capt. S. M. Ackley, Lieut. J. H.
 Torores, Messrs. P. L. Higginson, M. W. Ash-
 ley, Thos. Chang Luke, M. A. Duarte Pilo, J.
 de Souza, Ida E. Souto, Jose da C. Coelho, S.
 Pereira, A. L. Ramos, Eustochio Jose, J. Maria
 da Naximento and child, J. Holsen, V. Silva,
 S. G. Wilshire, P. O. Olesen, S. V. Brimley,
 H. G. White, E. J. Crisp, F. A. Crago and H.
 C. Wilson.

Per Haiching, from Coast Ports, Messrs.
 Watson, Blount and Macdonald.

Per Silesia, from Shanghai for Europe, Mrs.
 Sanders and 2 children and Miss Baden.

Per China, from San Francisco, &c., Miss E.
 D. Anderson, Mr. Fred. Braun, Mr. and Mrs.
 L. A. Barretto, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carrick,
 Mrs. Geo. T. Cochran, Mrs. and Master W. S.
 Doty, Mr. M. Earnshaw, Mrs. Adela Earnshaw,
 Mrs. Earnshaw, Mr. R. M. Frammea, Miss D.
 Gordon, Mr. R. W. Jassawald, Miss Minnie
 Hayden, Messrs. W. H. Holabird, J. G. Metcalfe,
 Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Owens, Miss Owens, Messrs.
 L. H. Shidden, Edouard Schmahl, Mrs. Josefa
 Sampedro, Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Santo and infant,
 Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Taylor and 2 children,
 Mr. J. H. Wallace, and Mrs. A. E. Chapin.

Per Prinzess Alice, from Bremen, &c., Mr. and
 Mrs. Smeadley D. Butler, Messrs. A. O. Brawn
 Drury, W. Davies, Miss Fraser, Mr. A. Glocke,
 Lieut. F. N. Hope, R. Y. A., Messrs. A. B. Howes,
 Hawks, Ludwig Hermann, Mr. and Mrs. C.
 Kingcome and children, Messrs. Robert Kratt,
 Otto Kirmse, Lind, Mr. and Mrs. Lightburn,
 Mrs. Lenz and child, Mr. Low, Miss M. F.
 Massey, Mr. Morrison, Mrs. Nicholson and
 family, Mr. Rogge, Miss Agathe v. Seelhorst,
 Mr. Carl Schoch, Miss L. Stevens, Messrs.
 Stevens, v. de Stael and H. Mandl.

Per Yuensang, from Manila, Messrs. W. B.
 Moses, R. Butcher, C. A. Bond and Garlick.

Per Yehow, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs.
 Williams and Mr. Ross.

Per Lightning, from Calcutta and Straits,
 Mr. and Miss Leon, Messrs. J. Arnowitz, B. M.
 Peters, A. F. Gibbs, G. Paker and C. Chalmers.

Per Bayern, for Hongkong from Yokohama,
 Messrs. A. H. Tavares, A. G. Potter, K. Mat-
 suda, A. Sanders, Misses Baker and F. P. Winn;
 from Kobe, Messrs. Whitfield, S. L. Losell, W.
 F. Leverett, J. T. Fisher and C. C. Cooper;
 from Nagasaki, Mr. Fraser and Capt. Unsworth;
 from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Focken,
 Mr. E. L. Silvers, Mrs. H. Dutard, Mrs. E. R.
 C. Hobbs, Mr. A. Basto, Mrs. Pollak, Messrs.
 W. Brown, W. Schadd, C. R. Scott, A. C.
 Young, A. E. Poclock, Mr. and Mrs. Barrett,
 Messrs. Cito, E. A. Magie, T. M. Botelho, Miss
 Alves, Messrs. T. B. Herrmann, L. B. Worcester,
 Miss Grace Tarrilla, Mr. and Mrs. Horst and
 child, Messrs. F. T. Rodriguez, L. Lange, and
 Mrs. Risa Pescio.

Per Rubi, from Manila, Major Geo. M.
 Barbour, Dr. H. Fahrlander, Messrs. H. S.
 Choverton, W. J. Kenny, G. Santos, H. E.
 Smith, Fred. L. Bradford, H. W. Mitchell, F.
 E. King, Mr. and Mrs. J. Grieve, Messrs.
 Henry Lucas and T. S. Akina.

Per Chowtai, from Swatow, Mr. H. Crosket.

DEPARTED.

Per Mongolia, for China and Japan ports,
 Messrs. Jas. Peace and R. Laurenz, Mr. and
 Mrs. O. Von der Heyde and 2 children, Miss
 Mayenberg, Mr. Y. Takami, Capt. J. A. Goodin,
 U.S.A., Lieuts. J. B. Allison, U.S.A., A. Gilmor,
 U.S.A., L. I. Samuelson, U.S.A., Mr. J. A.
 MacGregor, Mrs. Herbert Grimble and child,
 Messrs. T. Arima, John Block, A. Mackenzie,
 H. F. Chalkley, G. R. Boles, Lieut. Myles
 Ponsonby, R. A., Messrs. S. Ohta, Alex. Boyd,
 C. W. Tarrant, Mr. B. J. Barlow, Rev. C.
 Prieto, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Shin; for San
 Francisco, &c., Mr. E. J. Shipman, Capt. and
 Mrs. Haw Crichton, Mr. C. C. Chopp, Mr. and
 Mrs. Chas. H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. F. A.
 Seymour, Messrs. Gus Duval, Wm. Koke, Mr.
 and Mrs. J. S. Day, Messrs. John Giller, P. C.
 Bamer and J. D. Robertson.

Per Nubia, from Hongkong for Singapore,
 Miss Geary; for Brindisi, Leo Miller; for Mar-
 seilles, Messrs. D. Sutherland, J. Keenan and
 H. F. Howe; for London, Rear-Admiral and
 Mrs. Chas. G. Dicken, Messrs. Chas. E. Batt,
 A. B. de Veuille, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Aldis,
 Misses Iveline and Gladys Aldis, Messrs. H. J.
 Rinder Knecht and Hyland; from Shanghai for
 Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Tilghman,
 Lieut. Newman, Messrs. W. D. Graham and J.
 S. Liston; for Marseilles, Mrs. Donovan, Messrs.
 Grigneff, Smirnoff, Lischene, Kapitosky and
 Schreyer; for London, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hooper,
 Misses Hooper and P. Bridges, and Mr. S.
 Bramley Moore.

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